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Japan

Source: Miyazawa Plans April U.S. Summit

OW2202094593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0930 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Preparations are underway for Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to make a four-day visit to Washington in April for his first summit meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton, a government source said Monday. The Foreign Ministry is also hoping to schedule a trip to Canada for Miyazawa, immediately after the U.S. visit, the source said.

Miyazawa is expected to use the visit to explain policies aimed at expanding domestic demand, and to consult with Clinton on the Tokyo summit of leaders of Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations slated for July. The visit is being organized for early or mid-April, rather than March, as earlier planned, to allow time for parliament to approve a public works program as part of the budget for fiscal 1993, which starts April 1.

The U.S. has urged Japan to take action to help reduce the growing trade imbalance, which according to Japanese figures last year reached a record 44 billion dollars in Japan's favor. Miyazawa is expected to explain a ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) plan aimed at boosting the economy.

The LDP is mulling over proposals to reduce taxes on targeted items such as housing purchases by several hundred billion yen, and to front-load spending on public works. The ruling party may also consider an opposition demand to reduce income taxes.

In addition, Miyazawa is likely to unveil a plan to disperse 75 billion dollars to developing countries from 1993 to 1997. The 1988-92 five-year Official Development Assistance (ODA) target of 65 billion dollars was achieved in June last year, nine months ahead of schedule.

Japan's global trade surplus ballooned 29 percent in 1992 to a record 132 billion dollars.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe opened dialogue with the new U.S. Administration earlier this month when he met with Clinton, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Defense Secretary Les Aspin and other officials during a three-day stay in Washington. A senior aide to Miyazawa said last week Miyazawa's visit would be expected to have more substance.

International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori is slated to visit Washington in advance of Miyazawa to lay the groundwork for the summit meeting.

Reaction to, Suggestions for Yen Issue Reported

Official Backs Higher Yen

OW1902122493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1137 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Vice Finance Minister Mamoru Ozaki said Friday the yen's current record-high level is tolerable but that he disapproves of excessive gyrations on the foreign exchange markets.

Pointing out that the yen's advance is within the range seen in the past, Ozaki said at a news conference, "I find little problem with it from the economic point of view."

But describing the market's recent moves as "rather nervous," he said it is not desirable for the yen to fluctuate too wildly.

"We have to be cautious," he said.

With speculation lingering that major industrial nations may agree to boost the yen to slim Japan's huge trade surplus, the Japanese currency leaped about 5 yen over the past several trading days and closed at a record low of 119.23 yen Friday in Tokyo.

Ozaki squashed speculation that monetary authorities are maneuvering the market, however, saying, "We are not guiding the yen higher nor are we willing to."

He also challenged a common belief that a strong yen will help reduce Japan's chronic trade surplus, which topped 100 billion dollars for the first time in history last year. "Ironically, past examples show us that a high yen helps widen the trade gap," he said.

The vice finance minister also said the ministry will shortly start working out details of a proposed program to recycle the nation's surplus to needy countries.

He failed to specify, however, the scale of the planned fund recycling, dismissing as a random idea Trade Minister Yoshiro Mori's proposal for 130 billion yen worth of fund recycling over five years, starting with the new fiscal year that begins April 1.

He said the ministry does not know how big the program is.

'Nervous' Currency Market Expected

OW2002014293 Tokyo KYODO in English 2318 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 20 KYODO—Now that the U.S. dollar ended this week at a new low against the yen at the closing level in Tokyo, the focus of the market is whether its decline will accelerate to break through its post-World War II intraday low of 118.60 yen, analysts say.

The major cause of the dollar's recent decline has been speculation that the Group of Seven (G-7) leading economic powers will agree to strengthen the yen against major currencies at a meeting of their finance ministers and central bankers in London on February 27. The analysts say both the U.S. and Europe are anticipating a higher yen in the face of Japan's soaring trade surplus. A higher value for a currency theoretically makes a country's exported products more expensive.

Another factor is the tax hike announced this week by U.S. President Bill Clinton in his economic package. Analysts say that although trimming the federal deficit may support the dollar in the long term, apparently it will restrain consumption and the U.S. will be in no condition to tighten monetary policy in the short run.

"There is a good possibility that the dollar will plunge to its record low rate against the yen next week," says Yukio Kakegawa, assistant general manager of Sakura Bank's Foreign Exchange and International Treasury Division. He projects trading will be very nervous next week ahead of the G-7 meeting.

Yasumine Satake, chief manager of Mitsubishi Bank's Foreign Exchange and International Treasury Division, sees the yen's recent strength as more persistent than when it set an intraday record high of 118.60 yen in late September.

"Last time, the yen's appreciation took place along with an advance of the German mark," he says, "but this time it's different.... If the dollar cuts below the 118.60 yen line, that's pretty scary."

On Friday [19 February], the dollar temporarily touched 118.83 yen in Tokyo.

Many market watchers, however, are skeptical about an abrupt acceleration of the yen's rise to, say, the 115 yen level. Analysts say there is a good possibility the dollar will recuperate after the G-7 meeting if the top finance officials do not show any clear stance on currency exchange rates.

Mineko Sasaki-Smith, senior economist at Credit Suisse, is worried about the effect of the yen's rapid advance on Japan's economy, already wading through a recession, and on stock prices. Japanese authorities probably would like to see the dollar at around 120 yen at the end of March because of the rule of the Basel-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS) on the ratio of capital to risk-weighted assets for financial institutions, she says. Sas05tV yen is an adequate range between the two currencies for the time being.

Japanese Vice Finance Minister Mamoru Ozaki denied Friday that authorities are guiding the yen higher and also brushed aside European calls for a stronger yen.

Many market watchers are also doubtful that there will be immediate market intervention at present levels because the yen's advance against European currencies is still relatively moderate. They say the focus will be when the dollar sinks below its historical lows. Others, however, say if it does go that far down, it will be too late for any engineering to halt the slide.

Bank 'Perplexed' Over U.S. Remark

OW2002033893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0321 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 20 KYODO—U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen's remarks favoring a stronger yen left Tokyo monetary officials perplexed and players anticipating a stormy currency market next week.

Bentsen's call Friday for a higher yen to redress a bilateral trade imbalance between the United States and Japan sent the dollar plunging to a record low against the Japanese currency in New York. The comments indicated a discrepancy between Japanese and U.S. policy stances toward the exchange rate issue, market analysts said Saturday. One market watcher said next weekend's meeting in London of finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations is likely to include "a hot exchange over the currency issue between Japan and the other G-7 members."

Japanese officials are worried that a rapid upswing of the yen could delay the recovery of the Japanese economy by hurting exporters and further weaken domestic demand, thereby boosting Japan's trade surplus even more. Meanwhile, U.S. and European officials want to see the yen strengthen further to curb Japan's surplus with their countries, the observer said.

Bentsen's remarks nonplussed the officials of the Japanese central bank, which is poised to intervene in the market to stem any steep climb of the yen.

"I believe Finance Minister (Yoshiro Hayashi) and the Treasury secretary agreed in their recent meeting that a rapid advance of the yen is undesirable," said a senior official of the Bank of Japan. "I am quite perplexed about Mr. Bentsen's real intention and I doubt if the U.S. really wants a further decline of the dollar," the official said.

Japanese officials moved Friday to dampen market speculation that the G-7 will reach an accord on a stronger yen in London. Finance Minister Hayashi said the market appears to be dominated by speculative movements, while Economic Planning Agency Head Hajime Funada said it would be undesirable for the yen to rise too rapidly.

These remarks put a damper on yen-bullish sentiment in the market and created concerns among dollar sellers about a possible concerted G-7 intervention supporting the U.S. currency. But Bentsen's remarks wiped out such concerns, dealers said.

"Japan is the only G-7 member that doesn't want to see a rapid climb of the yen," a dealer in Tokyo said. "I now believe a concerted intervention to prop up the dollar is unlikely."

Some market players are looking for the Japanese currency to rise to the 115 yen level next week if U.S. officials continue to try and talk up the yen.

Miyazawa, Hayashi Express Concern

OW2202040993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0347 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Japan's top government officials expressed concern Monday over the rapid rise of the yen's value against the U.S. dollar in morning trading in Tokyo.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told reporters that wild fluctuations are undesirable, while Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said his ministry is keeping in close touch with other major economies. Hayashi said he knows nothing about reports that finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations will agree to a stronger yen at their meeting slated in London on Saturday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said he would like to see a stable yen, pointing out that the Japanese currency at present is being lifted by speculation.

"I favor (the yen's) stable movements that reflect Japan's economic fundamentals," Kono told a news conference. While the yen's rise may pose difficulties for Japanese exporters, Kono expressed hope that it would on the other hand help boost imports. He added, however, that a sharp rise of the yen is not desirable.

Miyazawa: Rise 'A Little Too Fast'

OW2202102093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1010 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazwa said Monday the yen's rise against the dollar is a little too fast.

The premier made the remark to reporters shortly after the dollar plunged against the Japanese currency in Tokyo to end Monday's interbank trading at a record low 116.85 yen, down 2.38 yen from Friday's close.

Intervention to stop further advances by the yen depends on the Bank of Japan, Miyazawa said.

Market 'Overreacting' to Remarks

OW2202110593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1046 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Speculative moves are dominating dollar-yen transactions and the market seems to be overreacting to U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen's remarks supporting a stronger yen, Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said Monday. Hayashi, speaking at a hastily called press conference, said he hopes the exchange rates will "reflect economic fundamentals and maintain stability."

The dollar finished in Tokyo at an historical low of 116.85 yen, plunging 2.38 yen from Friday's close in Tokyo. The U.S. currency was changing hands at the 124 yen level about two weeks ago.

"I will watch developments in the market increasingly with care," the finance minister said. But he also said it seems as if there are not many market players who are taking positions that anticipate a further rise in the yen.

An anonymous top Finance Ministry official said Monday the "recent market is not reflecting fundamentals," although conditions cannot be described as critical.

The dollar's recent dive has largely been created by speculation that the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialized nations will agree to strengthen the yen to trim Japan's ballooning trade surplus at a meeting of their finance ministers and central bankers in London on Saturday.

An appreciation of a nation's currency in theory reduces the price competitiveness of the country's exports in the long run.

Bentsen's remarks, made on Friday, came in the face of an already dollar-bearish mood and sparked heavy selling of the dollar.

Hayashi, however, would not comment on the possibility of concerted intervention by the G-7 in the currency market. No specific agenda has been set for the meeting, he added, but indicated the G-7 is not likely to come up with a specific agreement on piloting the yen in any direction. He held to his stance of ruling out the possibility of fresh pump-priming measures, saying the top economic priority is the Diet's passage of the 1993 draft budget.

Japan's mounting trade surplus is partly due to sluggish imports because of the slowdown of the nation's economy, and critics have been predicting that foreign governments will pressure Tokyo to increase its efforts to stimulate the economy.

A higher yen can be a double-edged sword. On the import side, its appreciation could theoretically contribute to increasing imports as it would bring down the cost of dollar-denominated goods in yen.

But given the business slump Japan is in, economists question how much of a benefit can be expected, considering that corporations are still adjusting their stocks of durable goods that were acquired in the speculative bubble era in the late 1980s.

"It is certain that if this situation (the yen's advance) continues, it will not be good for" business, or to already feeble Tokyo stock prices, Hayashi said.

Economists say the increase in the yen's value would barely hit exporters such as the auto industry and electronics manufacturers, which already are suffering from the current economic slowdown.

Atsushi Miyawaki, senior economist with the Japan Research Institute, said, that generally in macroeconomics, a movement of 10 yen against the dollar is believed to affect the gross national product by 0.2-0.3 percentage point.

But he notes that it depends largely on other factors, indicating the recent fluctuations of the dollar-yen exchange rate could be more serious given the sluggish stock prices and weak management condition of private enterprises.

Market players are expecting the dollar to be traded around 115- 119 yen for the time being. Some recovery of the dollar is anticipated about the time of the G-7 meeting, but traders were skeptical that the dollar would go above 120 yen soon.

A senior Finance Ministry official Friday questioned the effect of possible G-7 intervention at the moment, while another top ministry official just said "you usually don't tell people before you intervene, do you?"

Bank, Tokyo React to Fluctuations

OW2202042393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0403 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—The U.S. dollar continued to drop sharply against the yen in Tokyo Monday morning on speculative trading following weekend remarks by U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen allowing further decline of the U.S. currency. The dollar weighed in at its lowest level in postwar years to finish the morning at 117.10 yen, plunging 2.13 yen from Friday's close at 119.23 yen. It fell to a record low of 117 yen flat momentarily before the morning close.

Bentsen's statement came in light of mounting speculation that the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialized nations may agree to strengthen the yen at a weekend meeting in London by their finance ministers and central bank governors in a bid to restrain Japan's soaring trade surplus. The dollar closed at 118.20-30 yen in New York and 119.00-10 yen in London last Friday.

Tatsuo Abiru, director and general manager of Sakura Bank's Foreign Exchange and International Treasury Division, said it must be difficult for Japanese authorities to intervene in the market amid expectations that Japan will be pressured in London to allow a stronger yen. It is obvious that the U.S. is trying to facilitate Japan's opening up of its market for imports by having the yen appreciate against the dollar, he said. In such circumstances, "it seems as if the 115 yen level has come within shooting range," Abiru said.

A Bank of Japan source, however, said shortly before noon that the yen's advance is too steep and the central bank "will adequately respond to major fluctuations." The source denied that Bentsen's remarks meant the authorities will artificially push up the yen.

Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said the market seems to be moving on speculation and that the Finance Ministry will continue to keep in close contact with other G-7 nations. [passage omitted]

[Tokyo KYODO in English at 0347 GMT on 22 February adds in a Tokyo-datelined report: "Japan's top government officials expressed concern Monday over the rapid rise of the yen's value against the U.S. dollar in morning trading in Tokyo. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told reporters that wild fluctuations are undesirable, while Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said his ministry is keeping in close touch with other major economies. Hayashi said he knows nothing about reports that finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations will agree to a stronger yen at their meeting slated in London on Saturday. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said he would like to see a stable yen, pointing out that the Japanese currency at present is being lifted by speculation. 'I favor (the yen's) stable movements that reflect Japan's economic fundamentals,' Kono told a news conference. While the yen's rise may pose difficulties for Japanese exporters, Kono expressed hope that it would on the other hand help boost imports. He added, however, that a sharp rise of the yen is not desirable."]

Miyazawa To 'Monitor' Situation

OW2202051093 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] In connection with the continuing appreciation of the yen on foreign exchange markets, Prime Minister Miyazawa today indicated to reporters that, although rapid movements are undesirable, as long as there are no violent fluctuations, for the time being he intends only to closely monitor the developing situation.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Hayashi told reporters this morning: The market is behaving like this because of speculation. We are in constant contact with other nations regarding the stability of the market. Hayashi seemed concerned over future developments in the market.

The government and the Bank of Japan claim that at the working-level meeting held in preparation for the G-7 finance ministers' 27 February meeting in London, no agreement was reached on artificially inducing the appreciation of the yen or the depreciation of the dollar. They also say that improvement in Japan's trade surplus will largely depend on the recovery of Japan's domestic economy, thereby strongly denying market speculation that the G-7 will agree to induce the appreciation of the yen and the depreciation of the dollar.

Nevertheless, the government and the Bank of Japan also seem willing to tolerate current market trends if foreign exchange rates move gradually to reflect actual economic conditions in each country. Therefore, the government and the Bank of Japan intend to watch market developments closely, and, if increased speculation results in rapid fluctuations in the exchange rate, they will intervene by selling yen or buying dollars to maintain stability.

Yen Rise 'May' Affect Profits

OW2202070393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0649 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—The yen's rapid rise against the U.S. dollar may further depress Japanese industries' profits, the vice trade minister said Monday.

Vice International Trade and Industry Minister Yuji Tanahashi said at a press conference, "I'm concerned that the yen's further rise may have an unfavorable impact on profits of the industrial circles."

"The yen's gain of about 7 yen in the past two weeks was considerably rapid, making it a matter of big concern," Tanahashi said, while advocating a moderate rise of the yen against the dollar as a remedy for Japan's ballooning trade surplus.

The dollar closed at a record low of 116.85 yen Monday in Tokyo, plunging 2.38 yen from Friday's close. The rate compared with 124.30 yen at the beginning of trading on February 8.

Without judging whether the rise is temporary or not, Tanahashi attributed it partly to U.S. President Bill Clinton's economic policy embodying a tax hike and fiscal deficit-cutting measures.

Tanahashi predicted that Japan alone would not be asked for exchange rate adjustment to reduce its trade surplus at the coming meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors from the Group of Seven industrial nations in London on Saturday.

He stressed the need for balanced global actions to correct trade imbalances.

Tanahashi said his ministry is considering conducting a survey to see how small- and medium-sized companies are affected by the yen's rapid rise if the rise continues.

Officials: Tokyo Seeks ODA Target Increase

OW2002062793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0552 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 20 KYODO—Japan seeks to increase the target for its Official Development Assistance (ODA) in 1993-1997 by 50 percent from the previous five years to 75 billion dollars, Foreign and Finance Ministry officials said Saturday.

The two ministries are now working out an outline of Japan's fifth medium-term ODA project for the period on that assumption, the officials said. They said the new ODA target, including increased aid for environmental protection and for controlling AIDS, will be presented by Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to U.S. President Bill Clinton in a Washington summit that is expected to be held sometime in April.

The government had planned to work out the new medium-term ODA target for the scheduled Tokyo summit of major industrial nations in July. It is, however, expediting work on the project for presentation to Clinton under orders by Miyazawa, who wishes to stress Japan's increased international contributions in the Washington summit, the officials said.

The proposed 75 billion dollar ODA in 1993-97 would raise the share of ODA in Japan's gross national product for the period slightly from the 0.32 percent in 1991 and would indicate Japan's increased international contributions, the officials said.

Official Forecasts U.S. Moves on Economic Ties

OW2202085793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0836 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Former Japanese Ambassador to Washington Nobuo Matsunaga called on Japan Monday to accept a proposal to replace its ban on rice imports with tariffs. "There is indeed a perception in the United States and in Europe that Tokyo's opening of its rice market symbolizes an open Japanese market," Matsunaga said at a press conference. Matsunaga, who is government representative for foreign affairs, said Japan is expected to do its "due share" in bringing a successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks. He said it is important for Japan to take measures on domestic and foreign policies, centering on minimum access and tariffication, to maintain and preserve Japan's rice growing industry. Matsunaga, who recently visited the U.S. to meet members of President Bill Clinton's administration, also said Japan should expand domestic demand and ensure economic growth to cope with increasing protectionism in the U.S. He said the new administration is likely to form an "equal and competitive" relationship with Japan but added that it is facing mounting calls of protectionism from economic and industrial circles as well as from the Congress. "Japan should first of all ensure economic growth based on promotion of domestic demand because that will lead to the expansion of Japan's market and will contribute to increasing imports," he said. Matsunaga also said if Tokyo does not hammer out and implement appropriate macroeconomic policies, Washington may take tough stances on individual problems such as automobiles, steel and semiconductors.

Mori: Tokyo To Deal With U.S. Steel Dispute

OW2202100693 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Representatives of major Japanese steel companies met Yoshiro Mori, international trade and industry minister, this morning on the U.S. Commerce Department's finding that foreign steelmakers, including the Japanese, had dumped steel products at unfairly low prices on the U.S. market. They asked the Japanese Government to tell the U.S. Government that Japanese steelmakers had not dumped steel products on the U.S. market. Mori, senior Ministry of International Trade and Industry officials, and representatives of major Japanese steel companies attended this morning's meeting. The representatives said the U.S. Commerce Department had reached a preliminary finding in February that EC and Japanese steelmakers had dumped steel products at unfairly low prices on the U.S. market. They asked the Japanese Government to make it quite clear to the U.S. Government that Japanese steelmakers have never undercut the U.S. steel industry by exporting steel products at unfairly low prices to the United States. Minister Mori told them the government would ask the U.S. side to come to a fair decision on the steel trade dispute between the two countries. He added that the Japanese Government intended to speedily consult other steel exporting nations about the formulation of new international steel trade rules. In this way, Minister Mori indicated that the Japanese Government would do its best to settle the steel trade dispute with the United States.

1992 Steel Exports Mark Second Yearly Gain

OW2202084293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0812 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Japan's steel exports in December marked their eighth month of consecutive growth, helping last year's steel shipments increase a steady 5.3 percent over 1991, an industry group reported Monday.

The Japan Iron and Steel Federation said the growth in December and 1992 as a whole continued a trend in which Japanese steelmakers are trying to boost overseas sales to make up for the dented demand in the domestic market.

Last year, the steelmakers exported a combined 18.98 million tons, which marked the second year of straight growth. However, exports below the 2 million ton line indicate relatively sluggish demand overseas as well.

The 1992 exports amounted to 14.20 billion dollars in terms of value, down 1.4 percent from a year before.

Surface-treated sheet like galvanized sheet was in robust demand, as were steel bars, while cold coils, seamless pipes, and welded pipes suffered declines.

China and Taiwan were active consumers of Japanese steel, respectively importing 2.37 million tons and 2.45 million tons, while the United States reduced its intake by 5.4 percent and South Korea 16.2 percent.

A federation official said 1993 will likely observe a similar modest growth in steel exports, as the Japanese economy remains in limbo with few signals of quick recovery in sight.

The report showed December exports totaled 1.87 million tons, up 19.9 percent from the previous month and a 5.7 percent increase over the year-earlier levels.

Galvanized sheet, wide strips, and cold coils, and welded pipes saw increased demand overseas, while heavy plates and seamless pipes fared poorly.

China consumed 286,000 tons of Japanese steel, up 12.5 percent from a year earlier, while the U.S., Taiwan, and South Korea all sharply slashed their purchases.

Japan's 1992 steel imports, meanwhile, plunged 35.9 percent from 1991 to 8.87 million tons, sinking below 10 million tons for the first time in five years.

Steel imports in December shrank 9.3 percent from November and increased 1.3 percent from the year before to 472,000 tons.

Prefecture Approves Zushi U.S. Housing Project

OW1902132293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1225 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Yokosuka, Kanagawa Pref., Feb. 19 KYODO—Kanagawa prefectural authorities on Friday approved the construction of a housing project for U.S. military personnel that Zushi municipal officials rejected last month.

The Yokohama bureau of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency delivered a "compatibility notice" for the construction of one high-rise apartment building and seven low-rise structures which will get under way as early as next month.

The bureau delivered the project notice to Zushi municipal authorities last month, but had it returned with requests that the entire plan be reconsidered.

Zushi has long opposed the construction project for environmental reasons.

The agency's plans call for the construction of 208 housing units to be built in two stages during fiscal 1993 with another 854 units to be completed along with an athletic facility by 1996.

When completed, the complex is expected to house some 4,000 U.S. military personnel.

Zushi Mayor Mitsuyo Sawa, elected last November as an opponent to the complex, said, "I am opposed to the project to the very end. I will appeal to the national government to have the construction halted."

Spokesman Qualifies Position on Peacekeeping

OW2102044293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0422 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 21 KYODO—Japan should reap the fruits of its efforts in the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Cambodia before joining fresh teams in Mozambique, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said Sunday. The top government spokesman made the remark during a television talk show in reply to a question about his reported reluctance for Japan to take part in U.N. peacekeeping efforts in the southern Africa country.

"It is a fact that public understanding of U.N. peacekeeping activities is gradually growing, and more and more people are coming to believe Japan is doing a good thing," Kono said. "I hope public understanding of these efforts will increase further."

He said Japan should maintain a cautious stand over possibly taking part in the planned U.N. mission to war-torn Mozambique at least until U.N.-sponsored general elections set for May 23 to 25 in Cambodia are implemented.

"I want our peacekeepers to complete their mission in Cambodia first," he said. Japan's first-ever peacekeeping unit went to Cambodia in September, after years of debate over whether such a role is appropriate under the pacifist Constitution, which bans the use of force in resolving international disputes.

Kono is serving as acting foreign minister while Michio Watanabe recovers in hospital from a severe cold and fatigue.

Touching on the Foreign Ministry's stand welcoming the dispatch of troops to Mozambique, the chief cabinet secretary said, "It is exclusively up to lawmakers to decide where to send peacekeepers."

The United Nations is expected to send requests to member states in March seeking a total of 7,000 to 8,000 peacekeeping personnel. The world body informally asked Japan last week to send about 50 to 60 transportation personnel and cease-fire monitors to Mozambique.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa subsequently hinted he may decide this week whether to help the U.N. peacekeeping mission there.

Tokyo Remains 'Cautious' on Peacekeeper Issue

OW2202111993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1104 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—The prime minister's official residence (Kantei) and the Foreign Ministry appear to be at odds over whether to send Self-Defense Forces [SDF] personnel to Mozambique for UN peacekeeping duties, government sources indicated Monday. Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada proposed to Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono on Monday that Japan supply the United Nations with a transport coordination unit for its peacekeeping mission in the southern African nation. The mission is expected to begin in March. Kono did not express an opinion, and instead deferred the decision to a meeting later in the week between Owada and Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, the sources said. Kono, Miyazawa's chief of staff, later declined at a news conference to disclose the contents of his meeting with Owada, but said the government remains cautious on sending peacekeepers to a second country.

Kono has repeatedly warned against rushing to expand the Japanese military's participation in UN peacekeeping operations before winning solid public support. The government is still assessing public backing for the participation of a 600-member Self-Defense Forces engineer corps in Cambodian peacekeeping operations, the SDF's first overseas deployment since World War II. Time is running out on responding to a UN request for military peacekeepers, but Japan may still opt for civilian participation in roles such as election monitoring for elections expected to be held by October. The UN has informally requested Japan to supply several dozen troops to the 7,000- to 8,000-member force in Mozambique.

Tokyo Plans International Weapons Ban Proposal

OW2002095393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0918 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 20 KYODO—Japan will propose the formulation of an international framework for a ban on trade in both weapons of mass destruction and conventional weapons at the Tokyo summit of advanced nations in July, government sources said Saturday.

The sources said Japan hopes the mechanism will replace the Paris-based trade regulatory body, the Coordinating Committee for Export to Communist Areas (Cocom).

The U.S.-initiated organization is designed to regulate the flow of only sensitive goods, such as high technology equipment, into socialist countries.

The collapse of the cold war structure has triggered regional conflicts, making it necessary to prevent proliferation of weapons for the maintenance of world peace, the sources said.

The framework, tentatively called the International Weapons Nonproliferation Organization, will be a multinational mechanism to control exports of weapons to countries involved, or likely to be involved, in regional conflicts, the sources said.

Japan hopes major weapons exporting countries such as Russia and China will join the proposed organization, they said.

The advanced nations have agreed to regulate exports of both categories of weapons and related materials to Iraq, Iran, Libya and North Korea.

The proposal will be put forward by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa during the Tokyo summit in July, they said.

Details of the proposal will be worked out on the basis of recommendations to be made in mid-March by the Industrial Structure Council, an advisory panel at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, the sources said.

Japan hopes the proposal will be incorporated in a joint statement to be issued at the end of the summit, they said.

LDP, Opposition Remain at Odds Over Budget

OW2002051693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0450 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 20 KYODO—The ruling and opposition parties failed to achieve a breakthrough in parliamentary paralysis on Saturday but agreed to continue talks on Sunday for the resumption of the debate on the fiscal 1993 budget, Diet sources said.

At a meeting of the parties' Diet Affairs Committee chairmen, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) gave no specific answer to an opposition demand to summon more witnesses to the Diet for sworn testimony on the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal, the sources said. The LDP's Tsutomu Kawara promised further efforts to summon one more witness to testify in the Diet under oath, the sources said.

Former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa and former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita testified on their role in the scandal earlier this week. But a third witness, Kiyoshi Sagawa, founder of the Sagawa Kyubin Group, failed to show up because of poor health.

To secure the passage of the fiscal 1993 budget through the Diet before the end of the current fiscal year on March 31, Kawara also asked the opposition to attend public hearings on the budget next Monday and Tuesday, the sources said.

The meeting ended in rupture when the opposition urged the LDP to specify who should be called to the Diet to give sworn testimony, they said. But the LDP and the opposition reaffirmed that they will hold a meeting of Diet Affairs Committee chairmen on Sunday night, the sources said.

The Social Democratic Party [of Japan], the main opposition force, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party are threatening to boycott the public hearings. Diet law obliges a public hearing to be held before the Diet approves a budget. The public hearing will be attended by academics recommended by the parties. No such hearing has ever been held with the participation of only one party.

According to LDP sources, there is a persistent view in the governing party's leadership that it should open the public hearings without the opposition parties to pass the budget through the lower house on March 2.

LDP, Opposition Agree To Resume Budget Talk

OW2202004593 Tokyo KYODO in English 2306 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—The ruling and opposition parties agreed Sunday [21 February] night to resume debate on the fiscal 1993 budget on the eve of a two-day public hearing on the budget, party sources said. The breakthrough was achieved at a meeting of the parties' Diet Affairs Committee chairmen when the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) accepted an opposition demand to summon another witness to the Diet as a sworn witness on the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal, the sources said.

At the Sunday night meeting, three opposition parties—the Social Democratic Party [of Japan—SDPJ] (SDP), Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) showed their willingness to cooperate in passing the fiscal 1993 budget before the end of the current fiscal year on March 31. Diet law obliges a public hearing to be held before the Diet approves a budget. The hearing starts Monday at the House of Representatives Budget Committee.

The three opposition parties requested that Rekiji Kobari, chairman of Fukushima Kotsu bus company, be summoned to the Diet to testify under oath about the scandal. Former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa and former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita testified about their roles in the scandal last week. But a third witness, Kiyoshi Sagawa, founder of the Sagawa Kyubin Group, failed to show up because of poor health.

LDP: 2 March Deadline for Budget Clearance

OW2202064893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0607 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has set itself a March 2 deadline to push the fiscal 1993 budget bill through the Diet, LDP officials confirmed Monday. They said that getting the budget bill through the House of Representatives signals the government's determination to enact the 72.4 trillion yen budget bill by March 31, the end of the current fiscal year. The officials spoke about the government's intentions after a meeting of top LDP executives.

Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council, was quoted as telling fellow LDP executives that the LDP should get the budget bill through the lower chamber by March 2 even if it means calling an extra session for budgetary deliberation this Saturday.

Opposition parties boycotted budgetary deliberations in the second half of last week, demanding that the LDP put priority on parliamentary questioning of key figures in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal and a bank scandal allegedly involving former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

The opposition camp has taken the position that the Diet has only to get the budget bill through by March 5, a threshold that would still allow parliament to enact the bill without having to compile a stopgap budget, opposition sources said.

Yamada Urges 4-5 Trillion Yen Income Tax Cut

OW2202061293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0508 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—A top labor union official called for a 4 to 5 trillion yen income tax reduction to breathe life into the ailing economy.

Seigo Yamada, a top-ranking official of the Japanese Trade Union Confederation, or Rengo, the nation's largest trade union group, told a public hearing at a House of Representative panel that the reduction should be carried out in the form of tax rebates. Saying he was alarmed by the nonstop decline in consumer spending, Yamada proposed a massive income tax reduction, which "will be a quick fix for the economy."

He said the proposed tax reduction need not necessarily be accompanied by a sweeping overhaul of the taxation system, such as a revision of taxation rates. Rather, he said, it can be implemented through such measures as tax rebates, where the government collected taxes as usual and then returns part of them to taxpayers.

Also speaking at the lower house's Budget Committee, Masae Wada, vice president of the Japan Housewives' Association, pleaded for resisting foreign pressure on Japan to lift its long-standing ban on rice imports.

Citing the nation's low self-sufficiency in foods, Wada asked politicians to honor the Diet's past resolutions opposing opening of the rice market and try to persuade other negotiating nations in the Uruguay Round of world trade talks to accept continuation of the rice policy.

BOJ: Weak Demand Hindering Economic Pickup

OW2202093793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0852 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—First-quarter production is forecast to regain steam somewhat but it remains to be seen whether the mild recovery will shape up to a genuine pickup of the economy, according to a Bank of Japan (BOJ) report published Monday.

In its monthly report on monetary and economic trends, the central bank said, "Production in the current quarter of January-March is expected to turn up, supported by increased exports and public investments."

However, it quickly added, "It is difficult to predict that production is set for a definite recovery since domestic final demand is still weak."

The report said final demand remains stagnant owing to sluggish capital and consumer spending, which are stifling the economy. The economy's main engines now are fueled by steady public works expenditures and the recovering housing sector.

As shown by figures on weak machinery orders, companies, particularly manufacturers, are unwilling to spend much on plants and equipment as stockpiles of unsold goods remain and their financial balance is damaged by the gloomy economic climate.

Consumers are also keeping their purse strings tight, worried about slowing income growth, especially overtime wages and bonuses, it said, citing recent data on department store sales and sales of new passenger cars.

Watanabe Plans To Remain Foreign Minister

OW2102042693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0347 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 21 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe has no intention of resigning because of current health problems, a senior Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) officer said Sunday. Koko Sato, chairman of the LDP's decision-making Executive Council, quoted Watanabe as saying he is not seriously ill and is considering commuting from hospital to the Foreign Ministry.

Watanabe, 69, who is also deputy prime minister, was admitted to the Tokyo Women's Medical College Hospital on February 15 for the second time in nine months. He had returned the day before from the United States. Officials and aides said Watanabe had a "cold and fatigue."

Sato, a senior member of Watanabe's faction within the LDP, told reporters that Watanabe's fever has stopped. his physical condition is normal, and that he has put on three kilograms of weight.

Watanabe reportedly told Sato that his latest illness is not connected to his hospitalization last May for gallstones and an infected biliary tract. He resumed his duties at the Foreign Ministry in July after being off for 40 days.

Watanabe is regarded as the No. 2 man in the cabinet of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

North Korea

Reaction, Reports on IAEA Inspections Noted

Atomic Energy Ministry on IAEA

SK2102091993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0904 GMT 21 Feb 93

["DPRK Ministry of Atomic Energy Industry Opens to Public Truth of Ad Hoc Inspection by IAEA"]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 21 (KCNA)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is these days insisting unreasonably that it should make a "special inspection" on military facilities which have nothing to do with our nuclear programme, relying itself on "information" provided by a third country. Although ad hoc inspections by the IAEA to verify the initial report on nuclear material submitted by the DPRK are going on smoothly, it argues that there is "inconsistency" and that it is "difficult to verify the completeness of the initial report."

Under this situation, the Ministry of the Atomic Energy Industry of the DPRK in a detailed report issued on Feb. 21 explains how the DPRK has fulfilled its commitment since the safeguards accord signed between the DPRK and the IAEA came into effect and what abnormal problems occurred during ad hoc inspections by the IAEA.

The report consists of "1. The DPRK has faithfully fulfilled its commitment under the safeguards accord," "2. What differences surfaced between the DPRK and the IAEA during ad hoc inspections?," "3. Inspection of the DPRK by the IAEA is made under the manipulation of the United States, not under the rules of the IAEA and the safeguard accord," and "4. Our demand."

According to the report, the IAEA said there are differences between the information provided by the DPRK and the results of measurement by its inspection personnel in the course of six rounds of its ad hoc inspection from May 4, 1992 till the end of January, 1993, but, by and large, they were explained in the course of technical negotiations.

There were differences between the DPRK and the agency in the course of ad hoc inspection or two points, that is, "principal inconsistency" and "inspection of two sites."

There is actually no "principal inconsistency" which was mentioned by the agency side.

Of course, there are some problems yet to be solved by inspectors. However it is not "inconsistency" as claimed by the agency side but a mistake coming from a hasty interpretation of the results of inspection not taking into detailed consideration the characteristic features of our facilities operation conditions and nuclear activities.

The "two sites" referred to by the agency side are military installations which have nothing to do with nuclear activities and, accordingly, we are not under obligation to show them to the organization.

The report says the United States has systematically meddled in the IAEA's inspection of the DPRK and some quarters of the agency are moving at the beck and call of the United States.

The report notes: We hold that anybody of the secretariat of the IAEA should never be used for a sinister strategic purpose of any member nation nor be moved by pressure and orders of a certain nation.

The IAEA should make inspection according to the procedures and methods stipulated in its rules and the safeguards agreement and refrain from intentionally making the problems complicated.

Some people of the IAEA secretariat, availing themselves of the plot of those countries hostile to the DPRK to isolate the country, are trying to mislead world public opinion and playing the role as the "legitimate" agents in the fulfilment of their strategic purpose and espionage.

Such being the situation, we cannot but take into account the question of taking appropriate self-defense measures to safeguard the nation's sovereignty and security.

We expect that all the member nations of the IAEA and the international community will understand and judge in a fair way the problems arising between the IAEA and the DPRK in the implementation of the safeguard agreement in the spirit of the rules of the organization, the safeguard agreement and the agreement of the board of governors of the IAEA.

JNCC Chief Denounces Inspection

SK2002061793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0548 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—Choe U-chin, chairman of the North side to the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC], released a statement Friday branding such reckless acts of the South Korean authorities as playing the role of a "shock brigade" in the campaign for a "special inspection" of the DPRK launched by outside forces as an anti-national crime.

Recalling that at a time when some quarters of the United States are spreading false rumors that the DPRK has objects which have not been declared to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and the IAEA is attempting to force a "special inspection" on the DPRK, the South Korean authorities are making a fuss, actively "responding" to it, the statement says:

It is entirely unjustifiable for the IAEA to call for a "special inspection" of the DPRK. It is because some quarters of the IAEA have complied with a false "information" provided by the United States, bowing to its pressure aimed at expanding the inspection by the IAEA to military bases of the DPRK which have nothing to do with nuclear activities and thus disarming the country.

The United States seeks a very sinister military and political purpose in providing the IAEA with a false "information" and instigating the international organization to force a "special inspection" on the DPRK in viotation of its rules and the nuclear safeguards accord signed between it and the DPRK.

It is as clear as noonday what grave consequencies it would cause, if a "special inspection" of the DPRK were decided upon unjustifiably at the board of governors of the IAEA as intended by the United States.

Judging from the projected resumption of the "Team Spirit 93" provocative joint nuclear war exercises across South Korea, it goes without saying that the "sanctions" which may be taken against the DPRK under the pretext of a "special inspection" would inevitably give rise to confrontation and conflict in Korea.

The South Korean authorities are taking the van in the quite dangerous campaign for a "special inspection" which may entail extremely grave consequencies in Korea. It is as foolish an act as jumping into a flame with faggot and a dangerous act to impose another disaster upon the whole nation.

Since the South Korean rulers, not discarding their inborn flunkeyist and treacherous spirit, sacrifice the interests of the nation in league with outside forces, they must be held entirely responsible for all the consequencies arising therefrom, warns Choe U-chin.

'Big Nations' Condemned on Issue

SK2102020793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2314 GMT 20 Feb 93

[NODONG SINMUN 21 February commentator's article: "Let Us Not Be a Victim of Big Countries"]

[Text] The situation on the Korean peninsula is very strained and acute. The status of all action, which was once heading for detente and peace, has fallen into complete suspension [wanjonhi chongji sangtaee ppajida] due to the so-called nuclear issue.

North-South dialogue has been completely frozen [tonggyol toeda], implementation of the North-South agreement and joint denuclearization declaration has been blocked, and the situation is being aggravated with each passing day because of the danger of new confrontation and collision.

Using the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], the big nations are attempting to enforce special inspections [tukpyol sachal] on us, and to take some forcible steps against our republic by taking advantage of the UN Security Council. Their alarming moves are arousing our keen sense of vigilance and evoking deep concerns among the people.

As is well known, the IAEA's nuclear inspection of us has been carried out satisfactorily, proving the innocence of our republic's peaceful nuclear policy. The agency said it welcomes our cooperation over nuclear inspections.

Nevertheless, the agency is attempting to infringe upon our republic's sovereignty and to lead the situation to an extreme point while talking about special inspections, sanctions, and so forth. Why is it doing this? Does anyone think that we are really trying to develop nuclear weapons and to threaten someone else with them?

We signed the Nuclear Safeguards Accord. However, even now, with nuclear inspection of us being conducted, we have become the target of many U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea. Furthermore, with the nuclear war exercise being staged in South Korea, our republic is in danger of a nuclear attack.

In spite of this, intentionally aggravating the situation by using the issue of nuclear inspection of us as a pretext is part of the strategy of the imperialist reactionaries, including the United States and Japan, to isolate and crush our republic, a stronghold of socialism.

The United States, which became the only superpower after the Cold War system of East-West confrontation collapsed, is freely interfering in domestic affairs of other countries and regional issues while more overtly adhering to the policy of strength, thus acting as international military police.

Because of such tyranny practiced by the United States, the sovereignty of many Mideast, African, and Latin American nations has been infringed upon, and people have been forced into misfortune and calamities.

The United States is trying to apply its technique used in other areas and other countries to our republic in Asia. Japan, which is accustomed to receiving a windfall by depending on big countries, is dashing toward a big military power and its nuclear armament by carrying the United States on its back. Japan is talking about suspicions of our nuclear development more loudly than any others in an attempt to focus world attention on our republic.

Another issues is that the South Korean ruling circles are acting like shock troops at the van of imperialist reactionaries' commotions intended to harm fellow countrymen.

When some circles in the IAEA placed the issue of special inspection of us on the agenda, the South Korean authorities, as if they were waiting for it, held a conference of relevant officials from Chongwadae [presidential office], the Foreign Ministry, and the Ministry of National Unification, and decided to actively respond to this. Furthermore, they even kicked up a row by sending a delegation in a bid to realize special inspections.

Because of such commotions by the South Korean authorities, the issue of nuclear inspection of us became more complex. The reckless commotions of the South

Korean authorities are intolerable treachery and a nation-selling flunkeyist act intended to give rise to another war in our country by following outside forces and to make our people a victim of big countries.

From the beginning, the South Korean authorities have been the criminal who reduced South Korea into the largest U.S. nuclear arsenal in the Far East and who brought the seed of nuclear war onto the Korean peninsula. For this alone, they deserve to be cursed and denounced as nation sellers who committed an indelibly great traitorous crime before the nation.

After committing this great crime and after the United States announced that it maintains the policy of neither confirming nor denying the introduction of its nuclear weapons into South Korea, the South Korean authorities also said that they do not know whether U.S. nuclear weapons were brought into South Korea or not. When the United States said it withdrew nuclear weapons from South Korea, they also repeated that there are no nuclear weapons. Thus, they ridiculed the people and deceived public opinion by acting as a puppet.

After they adopted and effectuated the basic agreement and joint denuclearization declaration with us, they abruptly put forward the nuclear issue as a precondition for dialogue, claiming that the United States told them to withhold their implementation by raising the nuclear issue, thus laying obstacles to the talks. In addition, they resumed the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which was suspended last year, and have frozen North-South dialogue all of a sudden, thus unhesitatingly committing an antinational traitorous act.

The South Korean authorities aggravated North-South confrontation in the past by talking about a surprise attack and a preemptive attack on our peaceful industrial facilities. Today they are busy going around with the special inspection issue and attempting to impose international sanctions against fellow countrymen. Indeed, they are a group of traitors who are not interested in the people or in peace and reunification of the nation.

Those who attempt to set a trap for others are doomed to be caught in their own snare. The South Korean authorities are dancing to the tune of outside forces without practicing independence, and they are attempting to harm fellow countrymen. This is their own self-destructive act and a crime that will not make South Korea itself safe [musachi mothage mandunun].

The Korean people should not become a victim of big countries, being ridiculed by them. The commotions about special inspection of us are a product of the dark designs of big countries who are trying to fish in troubled waters by sacrificing our people.

If any special inspection and sanctions are enforced on us and if the sacred lands of our fatherland are trampled underfoot by big countries, this will be a dangerous fuse that will drive all lands, including the North and the South, into the crushing calamities of war.

Our people have eternal regrets about being deprived of our nation because we were victims of the hot wars among big countries. We have been suffering from the tragedy of division for nearly a half century as a victim of East-West confrontation.

If our people, who suffered various national misfortunes and pains from being ridiculed by outside forces, again fall into a dangerous pit dug by the big countries, we will have to suffer a more serious and enormous national tragedy than that of division.

At this grave point, all Korean people who love the nation and the people should not accept being ridiculed by the dark designs of big countries but should walk on the patriotic road for the country.

The most serious nation-selling act against our fellow countrymen is to allow big countries to fish in troubled waters by sacrificing the nation, and the greatest patriotism is to rescue the nation from the disaster that is near at hand by checking and frustrating the dark designs of big countries.

The masters who should prevent a war and ensure peace on Korean land are the Korean people ourselves. Our people, whether in the North or the South, should stand for national independence by rejecting interference of outside forces, and should safeguard national interests.

Today, when the imperialists and reactionaries are leading the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war by using the nuclear issue as a pretext, the banner our fellow countrymen should highly uphold is national independence and antiwar, antinuclear peace.

All the Korean people should rise in the pannational struggle to stop special inspection commotions which are perpetrated under the pressure of big countries and the Team Spirit war of playing with fire, to force U.S. troops and nuclear weapons to withdraw from South Korea, and to denuclearize the Korean peninsula.

Our people are firmly determined to defend the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style, treasuring the dignity and sovereignty of the nation. We will never tolerate [yongin hada] any step the big countries might enforce on us in connection with the nuclear issue.

The United States is staging a nuclear war exercise, the Team Spirit joint military exercise, against our republic—a nonnuclear state—and is demanding preposterous special inspections. This cannot be justified under any pretext.

The United States should not attempt to use in Korea the same formula it has used in other countries. If it applies this formula, this will be a great faulty policy [kodaran silchaek] for the United States.

The United States should correctly realize that any policy of strength cannot work for our people, who are firmly and single-heartedly rallied behind the party and the leader [suryong]. The United States should give up its useless act [pujil omnun haengdong] of instigating the international organization [IAEA].

Some circles in the IAEA noted that they will conduct a special inspection of our military objects, which have nothing to do with nuclear activities, based on false intelligence offered by other people. This is unjust in view of agency regulations and laws and of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord it concluded with us. This also contradicts international justice and the principle of fairness.

If some circles in the IAEA finally enforce unjust steps on us because of pressure by big countries, the world's people will not trust [silloe] the agency itself.

Our people absolutely will not tolerate [choldaero hoyong haji annunda] anyone's attempt to infringe upon our nation's dignity and to trample underfoot the nation's sovereignty, which is the same as our life.

We will do what we say we will do and we will not do what we say we will not do. In other words, we do not make empty remarks. The United States and its followers should correctly look into our people's firm will. It will be good for them to act with discretion.

Report on Inspections Issued

SK2202062693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0525 GMT 22 Feb 93

["DPRK Ministry of Atomic Energy Issues Detailed Report on Problems in Implementation of Safeguards Agreement"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 21 (KCNA)—The Ministry of the Atomic Energy of the DPRK issued a detailed report on the truth of the ad hoc inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) since the IAEA is making an unreasonable demand these days.

The report dated Feb. 21 reads in full:

Detailed Report of Ministry of Atomic Energy of DPRK on Problems in Implementation of Safeguards Agreement

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is these days insisting unreasonably that it should make a "special inspection" of military facilities which have nothing to do with our nuclear activities, basing itself on "intelligence information" provided by a third country. Although ad hoc inspections by the IAEA to verify the initial report on nuclear material submitted by the DPRK are going on smoothly, it argues that there is "inconsistency" and that it is "difficult to verify the completeness of the initial report."

Considering that under this situation, it is necessary to inform the member nations of the IAEA and the international community how the DPRK has fulfilled its commitments since the safeguards agreement signed between the DPRK and the IAEA came into force and what abnormal problems occurred during ad hoc inspections by the IAEA, the ministry of the atomic energy of the DPRK is opening the truth to the public.

1. The DPRK Has Faithfully Fulfilled Its Commitments Under the Safeguards Agreement

Effectuation of the Safeguards Agreement and Submission of the Initial Report

The DPRK Government signed the safeguards agreement on Jan. 30, 1992 before it was ratified at the third session of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK on Apr. 9, 1992.

The DPRK Government notified the IAEA on Apr. 10, 1992 of the ratification of the safeguards agreement, and thus the agreement came into force.

The DPRK submitted an initial report on the inventory of nuclear material and an information on designs of nuclear facilities to the IAEA on May 4, 1992, far ahead of the fixed date.

With a view to opening to public all its nuclear activities, the DPRK submitted to the IAEA even a list of the nuclear facilities and a list of scientific research institutions which were not subject to the agreement.

Visit of the Director General of the IAEA and His Entourage to Nuclear Facilities of the DPRK

The minister of the atomic energy of the DPRK invited the director general of the IAEA in May 1992 so that the IAEA could adequately acquaint itself with the full picture of the DPRK's nuclear activity and its peaceful nature. We showed our sincerity by letting the visitors go round not only the nuclear facilities subject to the agreement but also those not subject to it and even non-nuclear facilities.

We explained to him every detail of our nuclear activity undertaken so far.

Taking into account the fact that the states hostile to the DPRK had long since made a fuss, spreading false rumours about our nuclear development programme, we showed the director general and his entourage round the nuclear facilities under construction and some facilities described by the enemy as "enrichment plant" and "underground plant" and even underground structures built for use in case of emergency.

At that time, we told them that if the director general and other ranking officials of the IAEA asked to be allowed to get acquaint themselves with the conditions of our nuclear activity, they might go round any nuclear facility. Afterwards, the director general said on several occasions that such visit of ranking officials of the IAEA was a separate matter from the inspection.

Ad hoc inspection

The IAEA made six rounds of ad hoc inspections from May 4, 1992 when we submitted the initial report and other documents to the IAEA to the end of January 1993.

In this period, the inspectors of the IAEA confirmed the information on the design of each facility, conducted sampling, measurement and examination of operation records needed for the verification of the initial report, as planned and sealed necessary spots and installed surveillance devices there.

Cooperation of Our Facility Operators

Our facility operators provided maximum conveniences and rendered active cooperation so that the inspectors could fulfil their duty smoothly.

The inspectors asked for taking sample of high radioactive liquid waste at the radiochemical laboratory.

The waste disposal facility was at the initial stage of construction, and there was no mechanism for taking sample of high radioactive liquid waste. Therefore, sampling was impossible.

The facility operators, however, devised and manufactured a method and instrument for temporary sampling and took a sample as required by the inspectors, although they were exposed to radiation dose far exceeding the permitted limit.

When damaged fuel was measured at the experimental nuclear power station, Korean workers risked their lives to cooperate with the inspectors.

There are many of such instances.

The initial report submitted by the DPRK to the IAEA fully reflects our nuclear activities.

But, we supplied in time supplementary information which the inspectors requested to verify the initial report.

With such active help of our facility operators, the inspectors fulfilled their task as planned without any inconvenience.

Our sincere help was mentioned in explicit terms in reports of the director general of the IAEA submitted to meetings of the Board of Governors.

2. What Differences Surfaced Between the DPRK and the IAEA During Ad Hoc Inspections?

They are two. One is "principal inconsistency" and the other is visit to "two sites."

"Inconsistency in principle"

As a matter of fact, there is no "inconsistency in principle" though the IAEA side insists that there is.

During the six rounds of ad hoc inspection, the IAEA side said there were differences between the information provided by the DPRK and the results of the measurement by the inspectors. But, most of the problems were resolved in the course of technical negotiation.

Of course, there are some problems which the inspectors have yet to solve.

But, they do not mean "inconsistency" as alleged by the IAEA side but a mistake resulting from a hasty interpretation of the results of inspection without taking into full consideration the conditions of our operation of facilities and characteristic features of our nuclear activity.

Then what are the characteristic features of our nuclear activity from the point of view of inspection?

In a nutshell, we maintained the principles of independence and self-reliance in the development of nuclear power, proceeding from the subjective and objective conditions of our country, and accepted nuclear inspection by the IAEA of our nuclear facilities still at an experimental stage.

We planned to set up a nuclear fuel cycle system with natural uranium graphite gas type reactors.

Such reactor is most suitable to the specific conditions of our country, although we do not consider it superior to the light water reactor based on enriched fuel technically and economically.

We began to operate a 5MW experimental nuclear power station in 1986, but it took us four to five years to grasp its technology.

The radiochemical laboratory for research into the nuclear fuel cycle system is under construction.

Just 40 percent of the facilities of the laboratory have been assembled.

Because we had no other possibility of learning the experience of other countries than the data introduced in public magazines, we decided to examine and test the main process before further promoting the construction.

We conducted an extraction experiment in an unfinished process with damaged fuel rods from the experimental nuclear power station.

We recorded the result of the experiment and submitted it to the IAEA as required by the initial report.

The characteristics of our nuclear activity that the experiments were conducted at two experimental nuclear facilities, not at facilities in normal operation, should be taken into account during the interpretation of the results of inspection.

We do not deny that there may be differences in understanding during ad hoc inspection.

What we regret is that the IAEA side without a right position and attitude to solve the problem is deliberately making the problem complicated, raising a hasty fuss without consultation with the operators.

If there arises any difference or "inconsistency" during ad hoc inspection, the inspectors should try to clarify it by consulting the operators of the facilities.

It is the operators who know best of the specific conditions of the facilities. Therefore, the consultation of the inspectors with the operators is indispensible.

The inspectors, however, obsessed with "suspicion," began putting pressure, instead of trying to solve the problem.

The fourth ad hoc inspection team which visited Korea between 2nd and 14th of Nov. 1992 asked for official talks in Pyongyang before going to the spot.

At the talks, they attempted to "threaten" us, saying that more nuclear materials should be declared, that it was the last opportunity of modifying the initial report and that a tragic consequence would follow if the chance was missed.

Upon hearing their argument, our operators explained the specific operation conditions of the facilities scientifically and technically and recommended them to correctly interpret the results.

The inspectors understood that their views were largely based on a hasty conclusion after they acquainted themselves in detail with the conditions on the spot and held consultations with the operators at length.

Concluding the inspection, they said they had heard a detailed explanation and got useful data and proposed to leave uncertain problems as problems for future solution by both sides.

But things did not stop here.

The sixth ad-hoc inspection team which visited Korea from January 26 to February 6, 1993 raised in writing the two problems regarding "inconsistency in principle" and demanded their clarification.

At that time, too, the inspectors put pressure upon us, saying it is a serious and urgent matter.

The first problem is that the composition and quantity of pu [as received] reported by us does not coincide with what was calculated by the agency.

It is how to appreciate the burn-up of each damaged fuel rod taken out of the experimental nuclear power station at a different time and the composition and quantity of pu from each rod.

Experts of facilities calculated source data reflecting the reality on a computor and obtained a correct result.

The result is consistent in the composition and quantity of the pu products extracted from melting fuel rods.

This is an indisputable fact.

But the inspection team put forward the result remarkably different from our calculation.

The inspection team failed to explain the process of calculation in detail and insisted on its calculated figure, saying that the calculation team of the agency obtained the result on the basis of source data by using the universally recognized calculation code.

Our facility operators reexamined our calculation as it was raised from the fourth ad-hoc inspection, and verified why the calculation of the agency was different.

Our operators explained to the inspectors in detail in four days that "inconsistency" was caused by a principal mistake in the calculation by the agency and calculation made under imaginary conditions regardless of the specific conditions of the facilities.

Inspectors said at an individual contact: "It seems that your explanation is not wrong. It is quite understandable". But when both sides sat together one of them said to our surprise: "I did not calculate but the calculation team of the agency did." "The agency used proper source data." "Your explanation is not sufficient."

They failed to answer our questions "what is wrong in our calculation" and "what is insufficient in our explanation" and evaded recognizing the calculation made by our side.

But concluding technical discussion they said they had learned a lot this time and that as they excerpted useful data from the operating records they would reexamine them back in the agency and proposed to sit together again, before going back to Vienna.

Our side handed our data to the inspection team as a document and instantly sent them to the a operation chief of the agency by fax.

The agency has not yet replied to our document.

We cannot understand the stand of some inspectors.

We cannot understand whether the agency is afraid of its prestige being impaired if it recognizes the principal mistake made in the calculation or whether the agency is bringing into maturity a pretext for "special inspection" according to its prearranged scenario.

The director general of the agency proposed "special inspection" to us on February 9 even before the sixth inspection team recalculated the result after flying back to Vienna on February 8.

The second "inconsistency in principle" raised by inspectors is that the composition of pu extracted from the radiochemical laboratory does not accord with the result of waste.

This is true.

The main point here is to correctly understand its cause.

As to the cause, our scientists said that the difference came when the solvent from the basic experiment of pu extraction in 1975 was put together in the relevant waste tank.

When the director general of the agency visited here in May 1992, we told him all the basic experiment in 1975, introducing our nuclear activities.

This is a simple matter and it is easy to resolve when one understands it as it is.

But inspectors of the agency do not take a stance to settle the problem but persist in "suspicion," attempting to make the problem complicated.

Inspection of the "two sites" demanded by the agency side

The International Atomic Energy Agency is now spreading rumours that we are refusing inspection of the two nuclear related facilities in violation of the safeguards agreement and we are not allowing a visit to the nuclear site, breaking the promise with the agency.

This argument of the agency is preposterous.

The "two sites" referred to by the agency side are the military facilities which have nothing to do with nuclear activities and, accordingly, we are not obliged to show them to the agency.

We have never rejected the request of the agency officials for a visit to the nuclear object.

The point is that on the basis of the false information provided by a third country the agency demands inspection of the military installations which are not nuclear related facilities.

In this connection we cannot but look back upon what happened in the past.

In September last year, the director general of the agency abruptly demanded us to show in the form of visit two sites unrelated with nuclear activities to the inspectors of the agency who were visiting our country for the third ad-hoc inpection.

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At that time we allowed inspectors to see the sites and facilities not subject to safeguards, although it was contrary to the spirit of the agreement in May last year, considering that this was the first request of the director general. One place was a shop producing daily necessaries and the other was a military installation.

The inspectors who looked round the sites in the capacity of official personnel of the IAEA, searched every nook and corner of the rooms with instruments like a policeman searching the house of a suspected criminal, not as guests who came at the invitation of the host.

They saw round even spare parts storehouses and did such mean acts as looking into locked rooms from outside.

Our scientists made a shock wave test for shaping a steel vessel of the five megawatt experimental nuclear power plant on a riverside near the daily necessaries shop.

The inspectors saw with deep interest the shock wave test ground which remains mere traces.

They went so far as to ask for another visit to the place two days later, saying that they missed one thing.

Thus they went there again and saw even a small building there which is used as an ordinary storehouse of explosives.

After seeing a military site, they were allowed another accession to the building because they asked to see again the inside of the building so that other people of the agency would not need to come and see it again.

After seeing round the two sites, they confirmed that there was no radiation dose and the sites had nothing to do with nuclear activity.

But in their visit to two sites they did acts beyond inspection.

Their visit had no connection with the implementation of the safeguards agreement but they used the visit allowed by us in good faith to confirm the intelligence information provided by a third country.

We consider that the deeds of the officials of the IAEA did serious harm to the self-respect of our military and the owners of the facilities of our country and, furthermore, they are linked to an act violating of the sovereignty of our country.

Therefore, we, in a letter sent to the IAEA director general, made it clear that such visit or inspection requested by the agency for no particular reason would not be allowed in the future and it was the first and last chance.

The owners of facilities recorded on a video tape their acts because they were quite contrary to the aim of the visit.

We will open to the public the video tape when we think it necessary.

The director general of the IAEA on December 22 last year again asked to be allowed to visit, drill and take samples at two military sites including one which had been already visited, and proposed to quietly handle it in an off-the-record way, saying an informal delegation would be sent.

We think there is no need to classify the visit of sites into open and informal ones.

Any site which needs to be opened to inspection in the process of the implementation of the safeguards agreement will be opened as a matter of course, but any site which we are neither obliged nor need to show can never be opened even informally.

This is a matter related to the sovereignty of our country.

Therefore, we resolutely rejected the request of the Secretariat of the IAEA.

Later, the IAEA director general dispatched to Pyongyang a "negotiating team" to discuss matters of interpreting and implementing the safeguards agreement.

At the talks with us in Pyongyang from January 20 to 22, the negotiating team contended, as regards the necessity of a visit to the "two sites", that the sites should be inspected because, firstly, it was related to the "inconsistency" manifested in the course of ad hoc inspection and, secondly, there is clear evidence that the sites have connections with nuclear materials.

Our negotiating team clarified our view.

Explaining that there exists no "inconsistency" allegedly manifested in the course of ad hoc inspection and saying it would be made clear in the subsequent ad hoc inspections, that the IAEA side's talk that about the connection of the claimed "inconsistency" with the "two sites" was groundless, and the "two sites" are military sites alien to our nuclear activities, we refuted their argument asking why the agency was in such a hurry stressing the "importance" and "urgency" of the visit.

Our side urged the negotiating team of the IAEA to clarify the source of its "clear evidence" that the sites are connected with nuclear waste.

The IAEA's negotiating team did not hesitate to reveal that it was using information provided by a third country, saying if the third country was made known, "it might aggravate relations between the country and the DPRK." And it said the agency has the right to do so.

It avoided answering our side's question as to the legal ground of using information from a third country, saying "it takes much time to explain it on a legal basis."

This is what a high-ranking official of the IAEA "contended."

Our side made clear our stand.

It refuted the IAEA negotiating team's argument by citing provisions to prove that the IAEA has no legal authority to use "intelligence information" from a third country in the implementation of the safeguards agreement, that the IAEA is not a police and that such attempt of the agency is a breach of its rules and regulations, the safeguards agreement and the spirit of the December, 1991, meeting and the February, 1992, resolution of the Board of Governors, etc.

A member of the IAEA's negotiating team who has been engaged in international law for many years was tongue-tied by our side's refutation while trying to "coerce" us. Finally, he admitted it to be reasonable to solve "inconsistency" through the forthcoming ad hoc inspection at an early date, saying "though the use of information from a third country is not stipulated in explicit terms in the basic documents of the agency, it is a logical conclusion," "the success of our delegation is enough to inform your country of the agency's intention."

We made it clear that the IAEA negotiating team's argument was unreasonable from the legal point of view, and strongly urged that the agency should not be embroiled into the false information provided by a state hostile to our country but return to its original position as a fair international organization, taking into consideration the political and military situation obtaining on the Korean peninsula.

3. Inspection of our country by the IAEA has been conducted under the manipulation of the United States, not under its statute and safeguards agreement.

The IAEA is obligated to protect secrets coming to its knowledge in the implementation of the agreement (Article 5 of the safeguards agreement), but it passed the results of its inspection of our country on the United States and the South Korean side.

Some personnel of the agency have pipelined to big countries like permanent members of the U.N. Security Council of the "intelligence information" obtained through ad hoc inspection of our country and discussed it with them and systematically provided it to preferential countries hostile to us.

Some personnel of the agency side and countries hostile to us would raise a hue and cry over all the problems in the ad hoc inspection on the same day and at the same time.

—The agency continued to urge us to disclose our list of nuclear material and facilities submitted to it and made public the matters related to inspection.

A leading official of the agency told a councillor of our mission on May 4, 1992 in Vienna that "if the agency opens to the public the list of nuclear equipment of Korea through press media, the United States, Japan and Australia which have been studying it through earth satellite photos may charge that Korea has not yet opened some equipment to the public. Then the suspected sites can be opened for inspection and then their suspicion will completely disappear."

A leading official of the agency told our local representative on May 6, 1992 that "the agency is not in a position under its statute to divulge to a third party the content of the report submitted by your country. So the agency can never reveal it to anybody. But it is my view that for an early improvement of relations between the DPRK and the United States and between the DPRK and Japan an outline of the report might be communicated to the countries."

A leading official of the agency organized an informal meeting of the member states of the Board of Governors on June 10, 1992, at which he informed them of the results of the visit to our country and first ad hoc inspection of it and made public the capacity of our nuclear facilities in detail.

The agency handed over the data about our nuclear material and details of the inspection to the United States and South Korean side.

The HERALD TRIBUNE May 5, 1992, reported that "a spokesman for the IAEA said North Korea submitted to the IAEA a list of nuclear equipment as thick as a small telephone directory on May 4. Three previously unknown nuclear reactors were listed in the report."

The HERALD TRIBUNE May 6, 1992, wrote "Korea admitted that it has plutonium. But it still denied having a nuclear reprocessing plant."

The Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation [MBC] of South Korea reported on November 8, 1992 that the agency was known to be planning to send a high-level delegation to the DPRK following the fourth ad hoc inspection.

Only a few officials of the agency knew about this at that time, and we received the news by telex on November 16, eight days after the South Korean MBC report.

The MBC November 13, 1992, said "the U.S. Government has obtained the results of nuclear inspection of North Korea from the IAEA and is making a scrutinous analysis of them."

—The United States worked out false materials about our nuclear activities and delivered them to Japan and other countries and the IAEA.

The South Korean weekly magazine in August 1992 said "according to secret information provided by the U.S. side at the beginning of this year, an atomic energy institute about three times as big as the facilities of Yongbyon (with 5,000 or 6,000 researchers) is situated in Pyongsong, South Pyongan Province."

The Japanese JIJI PRESS November 16, 1990, said "there are nuclear facilities, such as a Soviet-made research reactor, a small nuclear reactor, an enriched uranium plant, a fuel reprocessing plant and a nuclear explosion testing ground, according to earth satellite photos of the United States available at the Japanese Government."

The South Korean newspaer TONG-A ILBO April 24, 1992 said "the U.S. spy saellite takes pictures of the Yongbyon area of North Korea four times a day after a photoanalysis it concluded that there are underground facilities citing evidence that a [word indistinct] highly characteristic of reprocessing facilities and a large building with a single window were clearly visible, graphite which is used as a moderator was supplied and five big rafts were built in the area of Yaksan, Yongbyon". [sentence as received] The United States has systematically meddled in the IAEA's inspection of our country, and some quarters of the agency are moving at the beck and call of the United States.

The U.S. CIA in a report submitted to the White House National Security Council last year said "the United States must include its trustworthy men in the special inspection group."

Under this directive of the United States the agency attempted to send inspection members of those countries which have no diplomatic ties with the DPRK even after it was notified of our stand not to accept such officials of the agency as members of the inspection group.

The United States has urged the agency to conduct a "special inspection" of our country. The U.S. CIA in a report submitted to the White House National Security Council last year wrote "for the present the United States must induce North Korea into accepting a special inspection and shape a policy toward North Korea according to the results of nuclear inspection."

The United States invited the director general of the IAEA to take part in a joint interpellation session at the House of Representatives on September 22 last year and brief him on the DPRK's nuclear program, while demanding him to make a "special inspection" and a "surprise inspection" of the DPRK.

4. The DPRK's Assertion

We expect that the IAEA, an international organization based on the principle of independent equality of all member nations, will always be faithful to its statute.

We hold that anybody of the Secretariat of the IAEA should neither be used for a sinister strategic purpose of any member nation nor be moved by pressure and orders of a certain nation.

The IAEA Secretariat's recent call for a "special inspection" of the DPRK is not understandable not only for the DPRK but for other member nations that respect the IAEA's statute and the safeguards agreement.

For the IAEA which should maintain the international justice and impartiality and respect the sovereignty of the member nations, all the acts undermining its dignity should be checked and no longer tolerated.

The IAEA should make inspection according to the procedures and methods stipulated in its rules and safeguards agreement and refrain from intentionally making the problems complicated.

We joined the nuclear non-proliferation treaty in the hope of dispelling the constant nuclear threat of the U.S. to the DPRK, not to sacrifice our sovereignty and security to others as their plaything.

Contrary to such expectation of ours, however, the U.S. nuclear threat to the DPRK has become all the more serious since it joined the treaty.

Worse still, the United States is now employing every conceivable means to let the IAEA which is not a disarmament organization, force us to open the military bases and, further, stifle our socialist system.

Joining in this campaign are some people of the IAEA who act on the instructions of the United States.

Some people of the IAEA Secretariat, availing themselves of the plot of those countries to isolate the DPRK, are trying to mislead world public opinion and playing the role as the "legitimate" agents in the fulfilment of their strategic purpose and espionage.

Such being the situation, we cannot but take into account the question of taking appropriate self-defense measures to safeguard the nation's sovereignty and security.

We expect that all the member nations of the IAEA and the international community will understand and judge in a fair way the problems arising between the IAEA and the DPRK in the implementation of the safeguards agreement in the spirit of the IAEA's statute, the safeguards agreement and the agreement of the Board of Governors of the IAEA.

Paper Berates Inspection Efforts

SK2102110493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0845 GMT 21 Feb 93

["We Should Not Fall Victim to Great Powers—NODONG SINMUN Commentator's Article"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 21 (KCNA)—Commenting on the recent ill-boding moves of great powers to force a "special inspection" on the DPRK by using the International Atomic Energy Agency and, furthermore, to take some coercive step against the republic by dint of the U.N. security council, NODONG SINMUN, the organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, today brands it as part of their moves to isolate and stamp out the DPRK, the bastion of socialism.

Its commentator's article entitled "We Should Not Fall Victim to Great Powers" says the Korean nation should not play into the hands of great powers, not be made a scapegoat.

It further says:

The "special inspection" row against us is a product of great powers' plot to victimize our nation and fish in the troubled waters. Should any "special inspection" or "sanctions" be imposed on us and our inviolable land be violated by great powers, it would become a dangerous train plunging the whole territory, both the North and the South, into the scourge of war.

If our nation which has suffered all national misfortunes and hardships at the hands of outside forces should fall again into a dangerous trap set by great powers, it would result in a more hideous national tragedy than the division.

At this critical juncture, any Korean who loves the country and the nation must set out on the road of patriotism for the sake of the nation, not playing into the hands of great powers.

It is us Koreans who are responsible for preventing war and ensuring peace in Korea. Our nationals, whether they be in the North or in the South, must reject outside Interference, take the stand of national independence and defend the interests of the nation.

All the Korean people must rise in the nationwide struggle to check the "special inspection" row kicked up under pressure from great powers and "Team Spirit" nuclear war gamble, get the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea and denuclearize the Korean peninsula.

Our people who value their national dignity and sovereignty and are firmly resolved to firmly defend the anthropocentric socialism of our own style will not tolerate any coercive step of great powers over the "nuclear problem".

The United States cannot be justified in trying to force an unreasonable "special inspection" on our republic, a non-nuclear state, staging nuclear war exercises like "Team Spirit" against it.

Our people will never allow others to infringe on their national dignity and sovereignty, their life and soul.

The United States and those following it had better look straight at this unshakable will of our people and behave with discretion.

17-18 Feb U.S., ROK Military Activity Reported

SK2002054693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0505 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors brought ten odd transport planes C-141 and C-130 loaded with aggression troops and combat equipment to Kunsan and Osan Airforce bases in South Korea from bases in the U.S. mainland and the Pacific region to be hurled into the "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises and deployed them in the operational zones on February 17 and 18, according to military sources.

They dispatched F-15 fighter-bombers and FA-18 pursuit-assault planes to the skies over Tanyang, Pyongchang and Yoju, South Korea, from the Iwakuni and Okinawa bases of Japan and staged an air battle exercise on February 18 within the framework of the "Team Spirit 93".

Earlier, from February 15 to 17, the U.S. imperialists introduced some 40 fighter planes of various types into the U.S. airforce bases in South Korea from overseas bases and staged a joint air-to-ground strike exercise targeted against strategic depths of the northern half of Korea.

These air war exercises involved more than 800 warplanes.

Meanwhile, the South Korean puppets frantically staged air war exercises with armed helicopters in Paju and Yonchon, South Korea, and in Cholwon of South Korean Kangwon Province adjacent to the Demilitarized Zone on February 17 and 18.

19 Feb Exercises Reported

SK2102104493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0822 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 21 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors committed joint air war exercises against the North with the puppets Friday prior to the full-dressed "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises, according to military sources.

Involved in the war exercises which were staged in skies above Anmyon islet, Wonju, Yongwol, Umsong and Kunwi of South Korea were scores of nuclear-capable F-16 dighter bombers, pursuit-assault planes, Vtol planes and electronic jamming planes based on the Japan proper and Okinawa and more than 400 military planes of different types of the U.S. airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce.

On the same day, KC-135 refuelling plane sortied from Okinawa and Guam incited a war atmosphere, air-refuelling scores of military planes of different types which were mobilized in the war exercises in the sky above the sea off Sosan as part of this joint air war exercises.

8th LSWYK Congress Continues in Pyongyang

Kim Il-song Letter 'Text' Given

SK2202125193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1146 GMT 22 Feb 93

["President Kim Il-song's Letter 'Young People Must Honourably Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche Upholding the Leadership of the Party"]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song sent a letter "Young People Must Honourably Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche Upholding the Leadership of the Party" to the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] on February 22, 1993.

Follows the full text of the letter:

On the occasion of the Eighth Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth [LSWY] of Korea which is of great importance in the revolutionary struggle of our people and in the development of the youth movement, I warmly congratulate the participants in the congress and offer my warm thanks to all members of the LSWY and the other young people who are working devotedly for the party and the revolution and for the prosperity and development of their socialist fatherland.

The young Koreans have followed a road of glorious struggle along with the development of our revolution. In the whole course of the Korean revolution, since its start up to now, the young people have creditably fulfilled their role as the advance guard of the revolution and made an undying contribution to defending and safeguarding our revolution and victoriously advancing it.

It was none other than the young communists of the new generation that resolutely broke with the old trend of thought in the darkest days of the Japanese imperialist colonial rule and hewed a new path of the Korean revolution united under the banner of the chuche idea. In order to save the nation from dire distress, the young communists and other patriotic youth dauntlessly rose in the sacred anti-Japanese war with arms in hand, fought at the risk of their lives and made a historic contribution to establishing the glorious revolutionary traditions of our party and achieving the cause of national liberation. It was also the young people that fought heroically, offering their precious youth without hesitation for the sake of their only fatherland when our republic was in grave danger owing to the invasion of the U.S. imperialists and thus defended their fatherland and enhanced the dignity and honour of the nation. Our youth not only displayed revolutionary spirit and heroism in the struggle against the imperialist aggressors; they have also unsparingly offered their youthful energy and wisdom as well as their precious sweat in building a new society in their homeland and in building and bringing honour to people-centred socialism in which independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliant defence have been realized. Whenever our revolution experienced difficulties and trials, the young people became the lifeguards and shock brigades of the party and defended the revolution [passage indistinct].

Under the correct leadership of the party, our young people of the new generation are now admirably growing up to be reliable heirs to the revolution. Having been educated and trained under the care of the party, our young people not only keep to their [words indistinct] as the builders of socialism and the defenders of their fatherland despite the complex world situation and unsound wind. Moreover, they do not express preferences for anything if it is the call of the party and display to the full fine communist traits of unhesitatingly devoting themselves for society and the collective as well as for their comrades. It is now the unshakable faith and will of our young people to live as the party wishes and couple their fate to the party as befitting young advance guard. Our party and people take great pride in having such admirable and commendable young people of the new generation as the reserves of the revolution.

Our revolution which has victoriously advanced under the banner of the chuche idea is now at an important historic phase and our people and youth have a heavy yet honourable revolutionary task.

The grave situation situation in which socialism has [passage indistinct].

Whether we defend the cause of socialism from all manner of challenge on the part of the imperialists and reactionaries and develop it further or not is a vital problem which affects the destiny of our revolution; it is an important problem which has a bearing on the existence of socialism and the future of mankind.

The present revolutionary situation is grave and complex, but the future of the revolution is optimistic and our cause is ever-victorious.

Although the imperialists are putting on a show of power, the internal contradiction and corruption of imperialism are becoming aggravated with the passage of time, and the downfall of imperialism and the victory of socialism is an inexorable law of history. The imperialists cannot dampen our people's belief in socialism. Our socialism has not been brought to us by anyone else, nor is it an imitation of others'; our people themselves have chosen it and built it with their own efforts to meet their own demand. Our socialism in which the independent and creative life of the people is ensured and the happiness and ideal of the youth come into bloom under the care of the party and the state, has taken root deep in their life of our youth and other people and has become something inseparable from our fate. The fate of socialism is precisely the fate of our people and youth.

We have the strength to defend and bring honour to socialism and accomplish the revolution to the end. Now is different from the time when we fought the Japanese imperialists empty-handed sleeping in the wind and rain and also from the time of the Fatherland Liberation War when our young People's Army fought against the aggression of the U.S. imperialists.

Today we have the tested leadership of the great party, the people who are united behind the party in one mind, a firm independent national economy with which we can get along by relying on ourselves under any conditions and an invincible revolutionary armed force capable of repulsing any formidable enemy and defending the gains of socialism. No amount of the imperialists military threat, political and ideological offensive and economic blockade can terrify our people and check our advance.

We must frustrate the counterrevolutionary offensive of the imperialists and reactionaries by means of revolutionary offensive, firmly defend the cause of socialism and accomplish the historic cause of the complete victory of socialism and the reunification of the country whatever the cost.

Our revolutionary task and the prevailing situation of today require us to prepare our youth to be the vanguard fighters who are unfailingly loyal to the party and the revolution. The future of the party and the destiny of the revolution depend on how we train the rising generation, the reserves of the party and heirs to the revolution, and enhance their role. For the party to be further strengtened, the revolution to be developed onto a new height, the new generation should be prepared in a revolutionary way better than their preceding generation. Ths is a law-governed requirement of the development of the revolution. The historical experience and lesson of the revolutionary struggle shows that the revolution is carried through successfully when the young people are trained in a revolutionary fashion and prepared in a sound way while the revolution suffers twists and turns and stops from being succeeded when they are not trained in a revolutionary manner. We should not think it unavoidable that the more the building of socialism is expedited and the more affluent their life becomes, the weaker grows the revolutionary spirit of the new generation gradually. The new generation have limitations in that they have not been trained in the trials of the revolution, but they have a favourable condition to acquire a high degree of revolutionary qualities on the basis of the fighting experience and achievements of their preceding generation. The point is whether we train the young people of the new generation so that they will take over the revolutionary spirit and achievements of their preceding generation and develop them in a proper way. We must train the young people into reliable heirs to the revolution and ensure that they honourably carry forward the revolutionary cause of chuche through the gnerations.

What is essential for our young people in iheriting and developing the revolutionary cause of chuche is to take over the tradition of single-hearted unity and be unfailingly loyal to the party.

Revolution can advance victoriously only when the popular masses are firmly united around their leader and uphold his leadership. Our people could emerge victorious from the extremely arduous anti- Japanese revolutionary struggle because they had achieved the single-hearted unity of the revolutionary ranks with their leader at the centre. The single-hearted unity centring around the leader is the kernel of the revolutionary traditions of our party.

Our revolution is today [words indistinct] the guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the leader unfailingly faithful to the cause of the popular masses. Just like the first generation of our revolution who had blazed the glorious trail of the Korean revolution, firmly united around their leader in their struggle, our young people should support the leadership of the party with loyalty united around Comrade Kim Chong-il in one mind. This is the requirement of our revolution and herein lies the sure guarantee for safeguarding and accomplishing the cause of socialism and successfully achieving the historic cause of national reunification ndder any difficult and complicated circumstances.

Our single-hearted unity is unity of ideology and will based on the chuche idea and organizational unity of acting as one under the monolithic leadership of the party. Faithfulness to the party is none other than the faithfulness of the revolutionary ideology of the party and to its leadership.

The chuche idea, the invariable guiding ideology of our revolution, is now being splendidly inherited by our party and developed in depth in a comprehensive way and applied to all sectors of the revolution and construction with success. Young people should adhere to the chuche idea and defend it most ardently. Their hearts should always pulsate with the chuche idea and only the red blood of the chuche idea should flow in their bodies. All the young people should be equipped firmly with the chuche idea, staunchly defend it and think and act as required by this idea at all times and in all places.

The League of Socialist Working Youth is the political reserve of our party, and young people are connected with the party organizationally through the LSWY. The leadership system of the party should be firmly established in the LSWY so that all the organizations of the LSWY and its members act as one under the monolithic leadership of the party. To become a member of the LSWY means having valuable political integrity and becoming a revolutionary fighter of the party who couples his or her fate to the party. With high revolutionary pride and honour, the members of the LSWY should take an active part in the organisational life of the LSWY and, through this life, train themselves ceaselessly and prepare themselves as revolutionary fighters faithful to the party.

If the young people are to carry forward and complete the revolutionary cause of chuche with success throughout the generations, they should become pillars of socialist construction equipped with great creative ability and noble quality.

The cause of socialism is a cause of gigantic creation for transforming and changing nature, society and man and it is carried out in the fierce struggle against imperialism. Therefore, for the young people to become pillars of socialist construction they must possess intense loyalty to the party and the revolution, as well as profound scientific and technical information, cultural attainments and military quality. Our young people should make every effort to be revolutionaries of the chuche type and builders of socialism who are equipped with knowledge and military quality as well as loyalty and filial piety.

The crative power and talent of the young people should be displayed in the efforts for the building of socialism, the noble life of youth lies not in seeking personal pleasure but in working devotedly for the happiness of the people. The young people must devote all their youthful passion and talent to the struggle for bringing greater honour to our people-centred socialism and thus make their valuable youth worth living.

Our party believes in the young people of the new generation who have received a chuche education and has put them in the forefront as the vanguard of the three revolutions—ideological, technical and cultural. Under the banner of the three revolutions, the young people should fully implement our party's chuche-orientated line on the building of socialism and effect continuous innovations and advance on all fronts of socialist construction. It is the greatest honour for the young people to take part in the worthwhile struggle for socialist construction and perform great feats in it. Our party calls the young people to the impotrant posts of socialist construction and hope that they all will become innovators and heroes and heroines in production and construction. The young people should atively take jobs in the difficult and laborious sectors of socialist construction to make a breakthrough and perform feats in their work. They must become pioneers in developing the economy and culture, science and technology through their energetic study and creative efforts.

It is the sacred duty of the young people to defend the party and revolution with arms. The young people should have a correct viewpoint on imperialism and war, sincerely study military affairs and make every possible effort to implement our party's military line of self-reliance in defence. They should take great pride in serving in the People's Army, the revolutionary armed forces of our party, and the soldiers of the People's Army must prepare themselves to be each a match for a hundred foes so as to make the defence lines of the fatherland impregnable.

Lofty morality and a sound way of life are the important traits to be possessed by the youth of our era. It is only when the young people are sound in morality and revolutionary in life that the unity and cohesion of our people can be solidified and a revolutionary way of life can prevail over the whole society. The morality of the exploiting class and the decadent bourgeois way of life are dangerous poison which causes the young people to suffer from ideological maladies. The young people should not be tempted by the wind of "liberalization" and by the manner of being indolent on the job spread by the imperialists; they must reject them categorically. They should display to the full the lofty morality and the revolutionary way of life whereby they like learning, working and struggling, and should love their comrades and collective and share good times and bad, helping and leading one another forward. Struggle, song and dance are indispensable to the life of the young people. The young people must lead an optimistic life cherishing beautiful hopes and entertaining rich sentiments.

It is the supreme desire of our nation to reunify the country so that all the fellow countrymen live happily on the same territory, and the struggle for national reunification is the continuation of the national liberation struggle which we started from the anti- Japanese revolutionary struggle. The young people are the standard-bearers of national reunification and the masters of the reunified country they should stand at the head of the whole nation in the struggle to reunify the country in the '90s. Our young people should not forget even for a moment the youth and students and other people in South Korea who are fighting for independence, democracy and national reunification, and should render active support and encouragement to their struggle. All the young people in the North, South and abroad must fight firmly united under the banner of great national unity and thus hasten the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The struggle of our people to complete the revolutionary cause of chuche is closely linked with the struggle of the progressive people of the world to oppose imperialism and build an independent, new world. To build a free and peaceful new world free from domination and subjugation, aggression and war is the common cause of mankind, and it is the noble duty of the young people to fight in the van to carry out this cause. Our youth should be not only faithful to their national duty of the revolution but also be exemplary in carrying out their international duty. They should further strengthen the friendship, unity and solidarity with the progressive youth of the worbd in conformity with the idea of independence, peace and friendship.

The future belongs to the youth. The happy future does not come of its own accord; it should be created and achieved through struggle. To overcome the difficulties and trials on the way of the revolution and open up a bright future—herein lies the pride and worthwhile life of the youth. All our young people must fully devote their youthful passion and talent to the struggle to complete the revolutionary cause of chuche, cherishing a far-sighted aim and ideal.

I firmly believe that the League of Socialist Working Youth and our young people will complete the revolutionary cause of chuche with credit, upholding the leadership of the party.

Kim Chong-il Attends Closing

SK2202070193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0631 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—The eighth congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] which opened here on February 18, closed today after successfully discussing the agenda items raised.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was present at the closing sessiom.

"Young people must honourably accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche upholding the leadership of the party", a letter of the great leader President Kim Il-song addressed to the 8th congress of the LSWYK, was read out there by Kye Ung-tae, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

2d Day of Congress Held

SK2002055593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1544 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—The 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] is now open in Pyongyang.

Its second-day session was held today.

Discussion continued on the first item on the agenda "On the task of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea to firmly prepare the young people to be a young vanguard unfailingly loyal to the party and the leader."

The session heard speeches from some 30 delegates including Kim Tong-yon, delegate of the South Phyongan provincial oganisation, Pak Song-ho, delegate of the Yanggang provincial organisation, Kim Chong-un, delegate of the South Hwanghae provincial organisation, An Kyong-mi, delegate of the Pyongyang municipal organisation, and Pak Ki-chong, delegate of the KPA organisation of the league.

The speakers noted that the youth question had been successfully solved and a hayday had been brought in the development of the youth movement in our country under the wise guidance of the party which set it forth as the general task in the work of the league to model the ranks of youth on the chuche idea by developing and enriching the chuche-based idea of the great leader President Kim Il-song on the youth movement and led the efforts for its realisation to victory.

They said the organisations of the league at all levels, in the period under review, had strictly adhered to the unique idea of the Workers' Party of Korea on the youth movement and thus prepared the young men and women to be dependable heirs to the revolutionary cause of chuche and made a great contribution to the prosperity and development of the socialist fatherland.

They stressed the need to increase the function and role of the organisations of the league in every way by thoroughly establishing within the league a revolutionary work system for upholding the leadership of the party with loyalty and improving the work of the league.

The speakers expressed their resolution to firmly prepare all the young people to be vanguard fighters who would resolutely defend the party and the cause of socialism in the van and make an active contribution to the acceleration of the final victory of the chuche cause of revolution by thoroughly fulfilling the tasks set in "let us develop the youth movement in our country to a new height," a classical work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il which had been published on the eve of the 8th congress of the league.

Letters to the congress from anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters and heroes of the republic who were awarded the title during the fatherland liberation war were conveyed at the session.

At the session Yi Chol-ung, head of the South Korean youth delegation, and Pak Ku-ho, chairman of the central standing committee of the league of Korean youth in Japan and head of the congratulatory group of the LKYJ [League of Korean Youth in Japan], made congatulatory speeches.

At the session Kim In-kyu, chairman of the central auditing commission of the LSWYK, made a report on the second item "on the summing up of the work of the central auditing commission of the LSWYK" and a decision on approving it was adopted.

The session heard a report of the credintials committee of the delegates to the 8th congress of the league from its chairman Kim Tong-yon and adopted a decision on approving it.

The session elected a drafting committee of a letter of pledge carrying the firm determination to always remain loyal to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il and the drafting committee of a decision on the first item.

The session also elected a drafting committee of an appeal to the youth and students in South Korea and overseas and an appeal to the youth of the world.

The congress continues.

3d Day of Congress Held

SK2002235293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—The third-day session of the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] was held today.

The discussion continued on the first agenda item "on the task of the LSWYK to firmly prepare the young people to be a young vanguard unfailingly loyal to the party and the leader."

Taking the floor were more than 20 delegates including the delegate of the North Pyongan provincial organization of the LSWYK Yi Chong-ki, delegate of the South Hamgyong provincial organization Cho On-chol, delegate of the Kangwon provincial organization Kang Chong-ok, and delegate of the organization of the Ministry of Public Security An Tae-son.

The speakers said great progress had been made in the work of the LSWYK in the course of constantly developing in depth the revolution and construction under the banner of the chuche idea.

They said it was the most important success registered in the LSWYK work that all the members of the league and other young people had been fully prepared as reliable heirs to the revolutionary cause of chuche intensely loyal to the party and the leader, and vigorously aroused to perform heroic feats in the socialist economic and cultural construction under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

They stressed that the Korean youth movement, as in the past, so in the future, too, would dynamically advance along the road of the glorious struggle, the road of victory always under the guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the party.

They called on the LSWYK organisations to further intensify the education in loyalty to the party and the leader with priority given to it to encourage all the young people to exalt the honor of the vanguard and shock brigade in the efforts for the prosperity and development of the country and the happiness of the people, promote the independent reunification of the country and strengthen solidarity with the world progressive youth.

A letter to the congress from the workers of Kangson was conveyed at the session.

Adopted there were an appeal to the Korean youth and students in South and overseas and an appeal to the world youth. The first item and the third item "on the revision of the rules of the LSWYK" were discussed and resolutions on them adopted at the session.

The election of the central guiding bodies of the LSWYK, the fourth item, was discussed at the session.

Choe Yong-hae was elected chairman and Kim Tong-yon, Kim Song- chol, Yi Chan, Yi Yong-tok, Mun Kyong-tok, Choe Hyon-tok, Ham On-kon and Yang Tok-chan vice-chairmen of the C.C. [Central Committee], the LSWYK.

The chief editor of newspaper NODONG CHONGNYON was appointed.

The congress continues.

Unification Struggle Urged

SK2002114293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 20 Feb 93

["Korean Youth and Students in South and Overseas Called Upon To Join in Struggle for National Reunification"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—The 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] which is open here called on Korean youth and students in the South and overseas to glorify their worthy life as young Koreans in the struggle to accomplish the historical cause of national reunification in the '90s without fail.

An appeal to the Korean youth and students in the South and overseas which was adopted at the session today says that they have devoted all their energies to the patriotic cause of promoting national reunification.

"Today the imperialists and the reactionaries in history are trying hard to undermine the dignity and prestige of the DPRK which has opened the era of independence under the banner of socialism and obstruct Korean reunifwcation," the appeal notes, and stresses:

"The present situation demands that the youth and students who are responsible for the future of the country and the nation turn out more vigorously in the struggle for reunification with patriotic devotion and youthful zeal.

"For us the struggle is the only way of achieving national reunification and of bringing the future of the country into bloom.

"This is the historical summing up of the Korean youth and student movement and an immovable truth."

Calling for adhering to the banner of national independence, the appeal says all the youth and students should invigorate the struggle for implementing the three principles of national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—which represent the idea of national independence, upholding them as the invariable principles for reunification.

The appeal calls on the youth and students in South and overseas to play the role of forerunners in awakening the people of all walks of life to consciousness of independence against the U.S. and in the struggle for having the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons withdrawn from the country.

It calls on the youth and students overseas to lift up voices of the anti-U.S., anti-war and anti-nuke struggle in all parts of the world.

It calls on the South Korean youth and students to continue their struggle till a genuine democratic coalition government will have been established, not deceived by the advertisement of the "democratic liberal party regime" about "civilian politics." It also appeals to those overseas to support in different ways the South Korean youth and students in their struggle for the democratization of society.

The appeal calls on all the youth and students in South and overseas to actively fight for a strict implementation of the North-South agreements and participate in the struggle for decisively checking the adventurous "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and reunifying the country through confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments.

The appeal calls for expanding and developing the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification, an umbrella organization of the movement of the youth and students in the North, South and overseas, into a coalition of young people of all strata.

Socialist Struggle Urged

SK2002114693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054 GMT 20 Feb 93

["World Youth Called Upon To Turn Out in Struggle for Socialist Cause"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—The 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, now open in Pyongyang, on February 20 manifested the strong will and unshakable determination of the Korean youths to defend and advance the cause of socialism to the end and called upon the progressive youths of the world to fight in defence of the socialist cause.

An appeal to the youths across the world adopted at the congress stresses that the cause of independence of the popular masses, the socialist cause is a noble cause of realising the ideal of mankind and that the road to socialism is the only road to be followed by the younger generation.

The appeal says:

"The progressive youths who represent the future of mankind must oppose things outdated and reactionary and turn out in the righteous struggle to defend and advance the cause of socialism, a new independent world.

"The youths of our era should protect their good youthful qualities and dignity from the anti-socialist tentacles of the imperialists and reactionaries and devote all their energies and enthusiasm to the common cause of mankind to advance the socialist cause anf make the whole world independent so as to live up to the trust afd expectation of the progressive people of the world."

The appeal calls upom the progressive youths across the world to further strengthen international support and solidarity to resolutely check all the criminal moves of the imperialists and reactionaries to isolate, blockade and invade socialist countries and vigorously struggle against the manoeuvres of the imperialists to trample underfoot people's independent rights and intensify their neo-colonialist exploitation and plunder.

The appeal further says:

"Since the imperialists and reactionaries are attacking the independent forces by an allied force, it is inevitable for the independent forces to counter it with the strategy of unity.

"'Let the young people of the world who advocate independence unite!' This is the slogan our young people, the pioneers of the times, should uphold.

"Let us resolutely check and frustrate the imperialist moves of aggression and war, holding higher the slogan of anti-imperialist solidarity, peace and friendship with which the sky of Pyongyang resounded during the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students.

"The final victory is in store for our youths who are valiantly struggling for justice and truth."

KCNA Reviews Pyongyang Press

18 Feb Press

SK1802132793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0520 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a photo-illustrated report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received a delegation of the Worker' Party of Turkey and a report that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the C.C. [Central Committee] the Workers' Party of Turkey.

Printed in the papers is a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to President of Gamia Dawda Kairaba Jawara on the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the independence of Gambia.

Papers report that Comrade Kim Chong-il extended thanks to various units and officials who had done good things for the society and the people.

Published in the papers is a letter to Comrade Kim Chong-il from the participants in the 6th Executive Committee meeting of the board of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea (IIJI) held in Paris.

The 8th congress of the League of the Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) is oening in Pyongyang today. In this connection papers carry editorials and articles and pictures introducing the life of the Korean youth who are vigorously advancing following the great party.

Comrade km Chong-il's work "Let Us Develop the Youth Movement in Our Country to a New Height" was conveyed to the delegates to the 8th congress of the LSWYK, according to the press.

Papers report that Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from Koreans in Japan and functions were held in foreign countries on his birthday.

It is reported in NODONG SINMUN that the Madagascan paper BASY VAVA carried an article explaining the work of Comrade Kim Chong-il "On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building".

Papers give accounts of talks held in Pyongyang between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the People's Unity Party of Tunisia and between delegations of the WPK and the March 26 Movement of Uruguay and news that the second international figure-skating games for "Mt. Paektu prize" closed.

Appearing in the papers are a report made by by Secretary General Kenichi Ogami at the 6th Executive Committee meeting of the board of the IIJI and a resolution adopted there and a special statement on the strained situation on the Korean peninsula which was adopted at the second symposium of political parties in Latin America on experiences in party building.

Seen in papers are a statement issued by the spokesman of the C.C., the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea demanding an urgent measure to transfer old Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, now detained in South Korea, to our side for medical treatment.

An anti-U.S. rally was held in Seoul by peasants and students against rice-market opening demanded by the United States, reports NODONG SINMUN.

The paper in an article brands the "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises planned by the U.S. and the South Korean authorities as a provocative war gamble blocking the North-South dialogue and the reunification of the Korean peninsula.

A commentary of the paper flails the remarks of the Japanese foreign minister arguing for the "advantage" of the presence of the U.S. Forces in the Asian and Pacific region.

World news of the paper includes reports that the Iranian president called for regional security through cooperation, the Nigerian president stressed the importance of peace and security and the Guinean president called for regional security.

Papers observe the 28th anniversary of the independence of Gambia.

19 Feb Press

SK1902055393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a report that the Eighth Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea opened with splendor in the presence of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and a picture of the platform of the congress.

Printed in the press are a congratulatory message of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the 8th Congress of the LSWYK and a report on the work of the LSWYK Central Committee delivered by the chairman at the congress.

They carry a photo-accompanied report that President Kim Il-song saw the mass gymnastic display "we will go always with the party."

President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il received gifts from the people's unity party of Tunisia, says the press.

Given in the press are congratulatory messages which came from foreign heads of state and party leaders on the birthday of Comrade Kim Chong-il, and an account of a reception to celebrate February 16 and a friendship soiree arranged by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the supreme national council of Cambodia.

Carried in NODONG SINMUN are accounts of talks held respectively between a secretary of the WPK Central Committee and the secretary general of the United Left Movement of Dominica and between a secretary of the C.C., WPK a secretary of the Movement to Socialism of Venezuela and between delegations of the WPK and the Belgian Labour Party, and joint statements made public by the WPK respectively with the Norwegian Communist Party, the Workers' Party of Turkey and the People's Unity Party of Tunisia.

The daily gives accounts of receptions hosted by the WPK Central Committee for delegations of the Bulgarian Communist Party (Marxist), the Sri Lankan Communist Party and the Belgian Labour Party, and of the sojourn in Pyongyang of foreign party delegations.

The Korean ambassador paid a courtesy call on the Kazakhstan president, reports the paper.

MINJU CHOSON conveys voices of different circles demanding that old man Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean people's army who is now in a critical condition, suffering from malignant pnenomia in South Korea, be repatriated to the North side for treatment.

According to NODONG SINMUN, the Pakistani paper INTTAHAB reported the Pyongyang declaration "let us defend and advance the cause of socialism".

MINJU CHOSON in a commentary reveals the strategic attempt of the United States to develop new-type destruction weapons.

South Korea

Reaction, Reports on New Appointments Noted

Hwang In-song Named Prime Minister

SK2202032493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0046 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—President-elect Kim Yong-sam on Monday designated Hwang In-song, the Democratic Liberal Party's [DLP] chief policymaker well versed in economic affairs, as his prime minister.

Kim named Yi Hoe-chang, a justice of the Supreme Court, as chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection.

Announcing the appointments for the president-elect, his spokesman, Yi Kyong-chae, said Kim had picked Hwang mainly to revitalize the nation's economy. The appointment of Hwang, who is from North Cholla Province, was also aimed at helping erase the regionalism that has plagued the nation for so long, sources said. The spokesman said Yi Hoe-chang, 58, was chosen because of his integrity and judicial ability. He is expected to carry out Kim's avowed policy of wiping out official corruption and irregularities.

Hwang, 67, a graduate of the Military Academy, had served in the military accounting field before he retired from the army in 1963 as a major general. He then served in various posts, including governor of North Cholla Province, transportation minister, agriculture and fisheries minister, and president of Asiana Airlines. He was elected to the National Assembly three times.

Kim was understood to have chosen Hwang as the leader of his cabinet in view of his administrative policymaking ability, specially in the field of economics, underscoring his resolution to revitalize the nation's sagging economy, according to analysts.

Kim's nominee to head the Board of Audit and Inspection, Yi is a career jurist who reached the top of the judicial branch of government from the District Court after graduating from the Law College of Seoul National University.

The appointments are subject to approval by the National Assembly. Kim is expected to form his cabinet in consultation with the prime minister on Friday, one day after he is to be inaugurated as the country's 14th president.

The director the Agency for National Security Planning will also be named at that time. Among those prominently mentioned to take over the agency are Ambassador to Britain Yi Hong-ku and Kong No-myong, spokesman for the inter-Korean prime ministers' conference.

Among possible cabinet appointees are Kim Yong-tae, secretary general of the DLP, Pak Hui-tae, DLP spokesman, Rep. Kim Tok-yong, former Reps. Nam Chae-hui, Hwang Pyong-tae and Han Sung-su, former finance minister Kang Kyong-sik, Choe Chang-yun, a former chief secretary for the DLP president, and Han Wan-sang, a Seoul National University professor. Kim Yong-sam has scheduled to hold his first cabinet meeting on Saturday morning, sources said.

New Designates Hold Conference

SK2202031993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0306 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—Hwang In-song, nominee for prime minister, said Monday that since President-elect Kim Yong-sam's intention was purifying from the top down he would do his best to take the lead in making politics and society clean.

"Under the present situation of rapidly changing international affairs and economic war, I will adopt every policy possible for enhancing the competitiveness of our industry and for survival in the global economic war," Hwang told a news conference at the headquarters of the Democratic Liberal Party. "I shall meanwhile put emphasis on stabilizing people's living by reviving the sluggish economy and controlling prices." "Conflicts among regions and classes are the most painful thing we have. I will solve the problem in terms of development of the country on the whole," he said.

At the same news conference, Yi Hoi-chang, Kim's pick for chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection, said: "I have not been officially informed of my selection yet. After my appointment is confirmed by the National Assembly, I will talk about my views."

U.S. Lawmakers To Attend Inauguration

SK2002065093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0259 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—Rep. Gary Ackerman, chairman of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, will visit Seoul on Feb. 24 for five days to attend President-elect Kim Yong-sam's inauguration, a Foreign Ministry official said Saturday. Ackerman was invited by Rep. Chong Chae-mun, chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs-National Unification Committee, and is making a private visit as the government has not invited foreign delegates. He will pay a courtesy call on Kim Yong-sam to discuss bilateral relations and the regional situation.

Eight Japanese lawmakers, including Shinya Totsuka, head of the steering committee of the Korea-Japan Parliamentary Union, and Deputy Beijing Mayor Zhang Baifa are also to attend Kim's inauguration, all at the invitation of Korean solons.

Reaction to Premier Appointment

SK2202142893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0719 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—Kim Yong-sam's apppointment of Hwang In-song as his prime minister on Monday split the political circle down the middle, with the majority party welcoming it and the opposition expressing disappointment. However, President-elect Kim's designation of Yi Hoe-chang, a justice of the Supreme Court, as chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection drew unanimous approval. Both appointments require approval of the National Assembly.

In another major development, Chong Chu-yong, former leader of the United People's Party [UPP] and presidential candidate, has decided to give up his seat in the National Assembly this week, party spokesman Pyon Chong-il said. The businessman-turned-politician intends to retire from politics and return to business, Pyon said.

Meanwhile, the National Assembly was idled Monday as the main opposition Democratic Party [DP] refused to take part in deliberation of a bill tabled by the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] to revise the government reorganization plan and other bills passed recently by standing committees of the National Assembly.

The Democratic Party demanded the formation of special committees for measures to cope with the uruguay round of global trade negotiations and for investigation into campaign allegations by Kim Yong-sam linking the Democratic Party's standardbearer Kim Tae-chung with organizations sympathetic to communist North Korea. With Hwang's appointment as prime minister, the Democratic Liberal Party's spokesman, Pak Hui-tae, said the administration of President Kim Yong-sam and the ruling party could now become one and carry out a unified policy effectively.

"We believe that (the president-elect) has appointed a figure who is equipped with moral fortitude, experience and administrative ability," said Pak. "It also clearly reflect Kim's intention to bring about national reconciliation and harmony."

It was not difficult to gauge the reaction of the Democratic Liberal Party and government leaders, including outgoing Prime Minister Hyon Sung-chong because, after all, Hwang has been one of them as DLP policymaker.

The main opposition Democratic Party said it could not help questioning Hwang's leadership as prime minister and his intention for reform as advocated by Kim Yong-sam. "Hwang is a politician of from an old era who will be unable to carry out reform," DP spokesman Pak Chi-won said. "Nor will he be able to bring about national reconciliation."

Reconciliation between the Cholla and Kyongsang Provinces could be achieved only through policy operations and not just by the appointment of a prime minister from a certain region, Pak said. "We cannot agree with Kim Yong-sam if the president-elect believes that the problem related to regional antagonism can be resolved by the appointment of a single top government official," Pak said.

As for the naming of Yi Hoe-chang as chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection, Pak said he was a respected person in various segments of society and welcomed his appointment as "most appropriate." One political party that could not have peace of mind to comment on Monday's appointment of the prime minister was the United People's Party, which is facing imminent collapse following the departure from the party and subsequent retirement from politics of its founder, Chong Chu-yong.

Rep. Kim Tong-kil, who was appointed to succeed Chong as leader of the party last week, began his work Monday for the reconstruction of the party. The party lost its status as a parliamentary negotiating group last week, when the number of its lawmakers dropped below 20.

Meeting reporters at the party headquarters, Kim Tong-kil said that it may be impossible to revive the party but nevertheless he had decided to accept the nomination as executive chairman of the party because of the enthusiastic support of grassroots members. Kim said, however, that in order for him to remain leader of the party, he needed the support of Chong Chu-yong.

Specifically, he said Chong had to take responsibility for the debts incurred by the party during his presidential campaign and support proposed committees for account settling and for party reconstruction.

Kim urged Chong to return the party's account books, which he had illegally taken away, and take moral and legal responsibility for party campaign workers charged with violation of the presidential election law. Kim Tong-kil said that as long as these and other problems are unsolved, he will be unable to become the party's legal leader.

With the departure of lawmakers and Chong's followers, the UPP has only 17 seats in the National Assembly with more members said to be preparing to leave the party in the coming days.

YONHAP Analyzes Appointments

SK2202140793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0509 GMT 22 Feb 93

["News analysis" by Cho Se-hyon]

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—With his inauguration as the 14th president of South Korea three days away, Kim Yong-sam on Monday completed the formation of the "troika" that will carry out his policies of reforms, economic reconstruction and elimination of corruption. Following up on his appointment of Pak Kwan-yong as his chief secretary last week, Kim designated Hwang In-song, the Democratic Liberal Party's policymaker, as his prime minister and Supreme Court Justice Yi Hoe-chang as chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection.

Kim obviously wants to turn the presidential residence of Chongwadae into an "incubator" for the creation of a "new Korea," with Pak as team chief, Hwang using his vast administrative experience to enact the reforms, and Yi cleaning up corruption. Hwang's designation came as a slight surprise to the many people who had expected to Kim to choose "a national figure with impeccable moral repute," according to analysts, who were mostly quick to add that they did not mean Hwang was any the less a moral or ethical politician. Nevertheless, Hwang was a surprise choice because he is a retired general with administrative credentials gained in the governments of Presidents Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u.

As the nation's first civilian president in 32 years, Kim had been expected to shun all military men, retired or otherwise, and all men with links to the governments of the former generals, for the top post of his administration.

Hwang's appointment does make sense, however, if it is viewed in the context of Kim's avowed intention to reform the country. The 67-year-old Hwang is one of Korea's toughest and ablest administrators. As Democratic Liberal Party policymaker, he scrutinized the economic policy of the No administration and was one of its harshest critics. A man whose roots are on a farm in North Cholla Province, Hwang has maintained an unswerving attitude on protecting the nation's agricultural industry. He was also selected as the man best suited for the pressing task of overcoming the regional animosity between the Cholla and Kyongsang Provinces. He is one of only two Democratic Liberal Party lawmakers elected in the Cholla Provinces.

Despite the pluses, however, some observers and pundits reserve judgement on Hwang's appointment. In addition to his being a retired general, they question Hwang's resolve to implement the reforms that Kim and his aides are expected to present to him.

With regard to the appointment of Yi Hoe-chang as chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection, there is absolutely no room for suspicion as to his determination to reform and clean up the country. Yi is regarded by people of all social strata as being of the highest integrity and upmost honesty. When Kim began to lean on Yi for the job, some aides even expressed concern that his sense of justice was "too strict." They feared that his outspokenness and inflexibility could work against the administration. Conversely, the choice of an uncompromising and fearless jurist for the job of cleansing officialdom reflects Kim's determination to root out corruption, starting with the judicial branch and including the prosecutors' offices, they said.

Presidential Secretary Withdraws From Post

SK2002100893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0853 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—Presidential Secretary-designate Chon Pyong-min withdrew from his appointment Saturday. Chon, named as President-elect Kim Yong-sam's senior secretary for policy, said he is withdrawing to disburden Kim of problems related to controversy about his appointment.

Kim's selection of Chon, unknown in the political circle except for his close ties with the president-elect's son, was called into question after he was found out to have only a high school diploma. It was revealed in the press Saturday that Chon's father-in-law was the assassin who killed Song Chin-u, a national leader in the years following Korea's liberation from Japan in 1945. Chon submitted his withdrawal after the first meeting of secretary-designates led by Kim Yong-sam. Kim's aides said the president-elect is expected to accept Chon's withdrawal.

"He was determined to withdraw. We could not stop him," said Hong In-kil, secretary-designate for administrative affairs, "he apologized to President-elect Kim for causing the controversy."

While political insiders questioned Chon's capability, the secretary-designate defended himself claiming his appointment was meant to be a message that people will be judged by their abilities, not their academic backgrounds.

Chon confirmed press reports that his father-in-law Han Hyon-u assassinated Song and that he knew it at the time he married his present wife. He divorced his first wife. Han and four others shot Song to death Dec. 30, 1945 at his home. Han was caught a few days later. He crossed over to Japan just after the outbreak of Korean war in 1950 and is currently living in Tokyo with his Japanese wife and three children.

New President, Cabinet To Declare Personal Assets

SK2002103293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1005 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—President-elect Kim Yong-sam said Saturday he will make public his personal assets and expects all his secretaries, cabinet ministers and vice ministers to do the same.

"The president, the government and the people all need to change their way of thinking in order to build a new Korea. Cleaning up the age-old corruption is the first task," he said at the first meeting of his secretary-designates.

Chief Presidential Secretary Pak Kwan-yong, chief security secretary Pak Sang-pom and all other appointees are to follow Kim's instructions and reveal their personal property as soon as they are ready, Yi Kyong-chae, Kim's press aid, said after the meeting. Kim stressed that the past friction between the presidential secretariat and ministries should not recur in his administration, Yi said. The president-elect is expected to announce his selection of prime minister and director of Board of Audit and Inspection early next week and open his first cabinet meeting on Feb. 27. Kim will be sworn in on Feb. 25.

Kim Yong-sam Interviewed on DPRK, Japan Ties

OW2002104193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0949 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 KYODO—South Korean president-elect Kim Yong-sam said Saturday there will be no summit talks between Seoul and Pyongyang until North Korea dispels international suspicion it is developing nuclear weapons. However, in an exclusive interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE Editor-in-Chief Yuichi Hayashi at his residence in Seoul, Kim said once the nuclear issue is solved South Korea will actively assist the north in overcoming its economic crisis. Kim said Pyongyang's repeated refusal to admit inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at a suspected nuclear waste site near Yongbyon, "has fueled suspicion that North Korea is hiding something" and further undermined the building of mutual trust.

The 64-year-old president-elect, who will be sworn in next Thursday for a five-year term, said he will forward the matter to the United Nations Security Council if inter-Korean negotiations do not bear fruit. But he was optimistic the suspended prime ministers' talks will resume "naturally" after a controversial joint military exercise with the United States in April is over.

"I think it's possible we'll settle unresolved matters, if we reopen inter-Korean dialogue soon and sincerely carry out what has been stipulated in the South-North basic agreement" of nonaggression and denuclearization accords signed in February 1992.

Originally seen as a major breakthrough in inter-Korean relations, the two sides since then have failed to agree on guidelines for mutual inter-Korean nuclear inspections outlined in the accord despite dozens of working-level meetings. Kim predicted that Seoul and Pyongyang, after a coalition period, could reunite and ultimately become a single nation before the turn of the century.

On relations with Japan, Kim said Emperor Akihito may be able to pay a visit to South Korea during the next two or three years provided the problem of Korean "comfort women" forced into wartime prostitution by the Japanese military is solved, Kim said. He said the governments and peoples of Japan and South Korea should avoid an emotional approach and deal with pending problems like the comfort women and South Korea's huge bilateral trade deficit in a rational, reasonable way.

"Japan must prove its sincerity in clarifying the facts about the comfort women and should seize this opportunity to start some historical soul-searching," Kim said. Historians estimate some 100,000 to 200,000 Asian women, mostly Korean, were sent to work in frontline brothels during World War II to serve soldiers of the former Japanese Imperial Army. The issue has evolved into one of the major problems straining bilateral relations, as Tokyo so far has not met South Korea's calls for compensation to the Korean women concerned.

"If Japan clarifies the comfort women issue, we can create an atmosphere welcomed by both our peoples, then a visit by the emperor may be realized in the first half of my term." Kim said he hopes to meet with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in Tokyo "as soon as possible, within this year."

He said the United Nations needs to be reorganized and strengthened to reflect the changed international situation, but expressed a cautious stance toward Japan's bid for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council.

"Reforming the Security Council is a complicated, difficult problem, as it requires a change of the UN Charter. Japan's bid for a permanent seat in the Security Council... must be discussed, deliberated over time," Kim said.

Outlining his foreign policy agenda, he said, "Taking our relations with the United States and Japan as an axis, the most important thing is to strengthen cooperation with China and Russia." He said the U.S. military stationed in South Korea will play an "extremely affirmative role" in the unification process of the Korean peninsula and should stay there even after unification is achieved.

On domestic matters, Kim said he will concentrate on reviving the economy, tackle corruption, and break the military's influence on politics through a comprehensive personnel reshuffle and restructuring of government agencies.

"I am resolved to suppress misconduct and corruption. Although this is a heavy burden, the president has to take the lead in forming a clean government."

Kim said he would like to be remembered in history for having eradicated the "Korean disease" of corruption. As one of the first steps, he said a civilian will be appointed head of the National Security Planning Agency, formerly known as the Korean Central Intelligence Agency.

His prime minister will most likely be from North or South Cholla provinces in the southwest, which Kim said has not been adequately represented in former military governments.

DPRK-IAEA Conflict on Nuclear Inspection Continues

DPRK Said to Develop 'Low-Power' Weapons

SK2102073693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0725 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 21 (YONHAP)—North Korea seemed to develop low-power nuclear weapons in underground nuclear facilities though it couldn't extract large amounts of plutonium after the construction of nuclear reprocessing plants were suspended, a government official said Sunday. The official, who demanded not to be identified, said that possibility was supported by the inspection reports by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) saying that the IAEA inspection team found several underground plants seemed to be nuclear waste storage facilities.

"IAEA suspected the facilities to be for waste products and asked them to be included in the subjects of the sixth temporary inspection, but the North rejected the demand. IAEA judged nuclear materials were hidden in these underground facilities," the official said.

The North asserted that they had never replaced fuel in the atomic reactor of the atomic power plants in Yongbyon because of frequent mechanical troubles since the plants operated from 1987, but it was highly possible that Pyongyang already extracted some amount of plutonium from the plants, he said.

Pyongyang seemed to fear that Seoul and Washington might continuously make issues of another subjects such as missiles, biochemical weapons and human rights if the nuclear issue would be solved, which probably kept Pyongyang from taking a clear stand on the nuclear issue, the official said.

"The North also seems to gain time until it makes one to two nuclear bombs," the official said.

Official: DPRK May Lose IAEA Membership

SK2102095793 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0905 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] This year's first regular meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] board of directors will be held tomorrow. The meeting will have intensive discussions on the issue of special nuclear inspection of North Korea, which was presented as the first agenda item, and will be attended by 35 countries including North Korea, the ROK, the United States, and Japan.

Choe Hak-kun, the North Korean minister of atomic energy industry, held consecutive meetings with IAEA Secretary General Hans Blix on 20 and 21 February and expressed North Korea's position toward tomorrow's meeting. However, what he said has not been revealed.

An IAEA official said that if the IAEA determines that it is unable to conduct a nuclear inspection of North Korea, strong sanctions against North Korea, such as the suspension of technological aid and disqualification of membership, may be taken according to the IAEA Charter.

IAEA: DPRK Extracts More Plutonium

SK2102140393 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1225 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Report from Vienna by correspondent Cha Man-su]

[Text] In May 1992, North Korea reported to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] that it had extracted a small amount of plutonium from a test atomic reactor in nuclear plants in Yongbyon once in 1990. However, based on an analysis of North Korea's nuclear materials collected in the course of a series of inspections of North Korea's nuclear facilities, the IAEA has determined that North Korea has extracted plutonium at least three times and that the amount of the extracted plutonium is far more than reported. A high-level source of the IAEA has revealed this.

To confirm this new analysis, the IAEA has repeatedly urged North Korea to sincerely implement the nuclear treaty and has officially demanded special inspections of two plants in North Korea, which are estimated to be nuclear waste storage facilities.

In connection with this, Choe Hak-kun, North Korean minister of atomic energy industry, held consecutive meetings with the IAEA Secretary General Hans Blix on 20 and 21 February and expressed North Korea's position on the three-time extraction of plutonium alleged by the IAEA and on the special nuclear inspections. Three North Korean nuclear scientists—the head of the nuclear research center at the Yongbyon nuclear research complex, the center's chief researcher, and the chief of safety—attended the meetings between Choe and Hans Blix. Judging from this, nuclear experts analyze that North Korea's nuclear development is being processed even further than revealed so far.

Meanwhile, the IAEA will hold a regular meeting of its board of directors behind curtains, not as usual, tomorrow afternoon ROK local time. It will bring up the issue of special inspections of North Korea as the first agenda item at tomorrow's meeting and give a detailed report on results of the nuclear inspections it has conducted so far, and it will listen to North Korea's explanation.

IAEA To Consider Sanctions on DPRK

SK2202034193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0110 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Vienna, Feb. 21 (YONHAP) [dateline as received]—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) opens a Board of Governors' meeting Monday with the high likelihood of demanding a special inspection and sanctions on North Korea. Because the IAEA has to keep inspection results confidential, only North Korea and representatives from board-member countries will be allowed to attend this week's session, agency officials said. Non-board countries who attended in the past as observers will not be allowed, they said.

North Korean Nuclear Industry Minister Choe Hak-kun met with IAEA Director-General Hans Blix in a closed-door session over the weekend to explain discrepancies between Pyongyang's report and the agency's own findings, but the contents of the meeting were not immediately known. Sources indicated that Choe refused the IAEA's demand for a special inspection of two suspected nuclear sites, believed to store nuclear waste left from plutonium extraction.

An agency source said there were series of doubts ever since inspections in North Korea began last may, and that there are a number of facilities other than the two sites that the IAEA wants to see.

This week's board session will not only repeat demands for a special inspection but consider various sanctions against North Korea, this source said. The board may adopt a high-toned resolution around Tuesday for the special inspection and study sanctions, including cease of IAEA nuclear technology and research fund supply, withdrawal of nuclear materials and facilities provided by agency members, and retraction of North Korea's IAEA member status, he said.

Suspicions against North Korea peaked when the IAEA compared samples of plutonium and waste from plutonium extraction. IAEA officials say the components and other elements from the plutonium and the waste match if they are from the same batch, but they do not in North Korea's case. The sampled nuclear waste indicated there is another stockpile of plutonium that North Korea did not report to the agency and that the stockpile may well be more than the few grams that Pyongyang claims, they say.

Unification Minister Discusses DPRK-ROK Agreement

SK2002102093 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 19 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] It has been one year since the South-North Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Exchange and Cooperation and the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula were effectuated. When this agreement was adopted and effectuated, there was a mood in which a new age of South-North reconciliation and peace seemed to be coming soon. But now, one year later, South-North relations are frozen.

The following is an interview with Choe Yong-chol, vice prime minister and minister of the National Unification Board, by CHOSON ILBO reporter An Hui-chang on this ill development of South-North relations and on pending issues between the South and North, including the issue of the nuclear inspection of North Korea:

[An Hui-chang] Because there have been no tangible fruits since the South-North agreement was effectuated, an increasing number of people take a skeptical view of the agreement. Will you give a comment on the first anniversary of the effectuation of the agreement?

[Choe Yong-chol] The South-North agreement is not what requires a settlement of accounts showing achievements between the South and North. We should find the significance of the agreement in the fact that the authorities have prepared a basis for reconciliation and cooperation by putting an end to confrontation and hostility between the South and North. Accordingly, the effectuation of the agreement cannot be followed by a sudden influx of the age of reconciliation. It is not possible to liquidate a half-century long confrontation in a day. Therefore, we must not devalue the agreement itself although we are undergoing some difficulties. All the more, we have to make constant efforts to improve South-North relations on the basis of the agreement.

[An] What are the obstacles to South-North relations?

[Choe] An atmosphere based on mutual trust must be created first to put the agreement into practice. However, the differences in opinions are too big between the South and North over the nuclear issue and the separated families issue, which are the fundamental issues to be cleared to create mutual trust. This is regarded as the core problem.

[An] People point out that various agreements between the South and North include many disjunctive items as a result of hasty work on agreements for just the sake of having agreements.

[Choe] There are some items, on the substantial matter of which the South and North failed to reach an agreement, and some articles which can be interpreted more conveniently or favorably to either side of the South and North than the other side. Accordingly, new arguments may take place in the stage of practice. From a long-term view of South-North relations, however, all of these are little waves. I believe South-North relations will eventually be improved based on the agreement.

[An] Why do you think North Korea refuses to accept the International Atomic Energy Agency's [IAEA] special inspection?

[Choe] Choe Hak-kun, North Korean minister of atomic energy industry, is supposed to give an explanation to the IAEA in person this weekend. We have to watch what he will say. In my opinion, North Korea will inevitably accept the special inspection because North Korea's leadership must be aware that it will be completely isolated from international society and will suffer severer economic difficulties unless it accepts the special inspection. I think some changes will be made in North Korea's attitude following the conclusion of Team Spirit.

Vice Minister Choe said that "it was his honor to do his bit as a government official in charge of the reunification cause." He then added: "I believe that we will have visible fruits of the agreement when all our people calmly approach the reunification issue with patience."

KOTRA Reports on Western Investments in DPRK

SK2102112093 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 20 Feb 93 p 7

[Text] Businesses in Western countries are investing in North Korea on a full-scale.

According to the Korean Trade Promotion Corporation [KOTRA], North Korea has been actively carrying out various methods to lure Western businesses such as the establishment of a law on foreign investment in October 1992. This is to solve North Korea's difficult economic situation. Businesses in Denmark, Japan, and Taiwan are actively promoting investment in North Korea.

Late last year, for the first time in a Western country, Denmark's (Unimax) Engineering Company and North Korea's Sambong Trading Company each established a joint venture company in Pyongyang and Denmark. It is a consulting firm aimed at West European businesses wanting to invest in North Korea.

Japan's (Nitshoyiwai) and the North Korean's agreed in principle to jointly develop iron ore at the Musan Cholsan district in North Pyongan Province. A current, detailed geological survey is being conducted.

KOTRA revealed that it was agreed that (Nitshoyiwai) would provide drilling equipment to dig the mine, and in the form of a barter trade, North Korea would entrust (Nitshoyiwai) with the rights to sell the iron ore.

The Australian construction company, (Clog) Engineering Company that drills for oil and gas and develops mines, and a Korean-Australian company, the (Cost) Cooperation Company, formed a consortium to promote in detail the work to develop mines in North Korea.

The consortium's partner in North Korea is the Puhung Trading Corporation. It was agreed that a total of $50 million will be invested to develop gold mines and zinc deposits in eight regions including Tanchon, Suan, and Sanghong. It was learned that overall matters on the investment of this project were being discussed with the North Korean authorities.

Kim Yong-sam Discusses U.S. Military Presence

SK2002093893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0852 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea will take time in deciding whether to support Japan's entry to the U.N. Security Council, president-elect Kim Yong-sam said Saturday. Japanese emperor may be able to visit Seoul soon and it would be a positive turning point in South Korea-Japan relations, but the visit is possible only after Tokyo reveal full truths on comfort women, he said. In an interview from his Seoul home with KYODO

News Agency and YOMIURI SHIMBUN, the President-elect predicted Korean unification can come within the century through an intermediate stage of South-North confederation. He repeated his diplomacy principle of maintaining pillar relations with Japan and the United States while promoting cooperation with China and Russia.

The American military presence in South Korea will work positively in the national reunification process and Seoul-Washington security cooperation has to continue past the reunification, he said. "The United Nations' organization and function have to be restructured and strengthened in reflection of changing international political situations," said Kim on expansion of U.N. security council.

"But it is a complicated and difficult process, requiring revision to the U.N. charter. We will take time to review and consult Japan's entry to the council after watching the debate on the issue," he said.

Kim beamed confidence that troublesome issues between Seoul and Tokyo like the comfort women and trade imbalance can find solutions when the two governments deal with reason and objectivity.

"But Japan must first show sincerity in uncovering the truths about the comfort women. It then must turn this into an opportunity to reflect on the regretful past," said Kim.

On Japanese emperor's visit to Seoul, the President-elect said it may come within first half of his tenure.

"The visit is favorable since it would be an important turning point in bilateral ties," he said.

"But it is better to have the visit when people of both countries can welcome it, which would be after Japan reveal the full truths on the comfort women," said Kim.

U.S. Army To Lay Off 300 Korean Employees

SK2102015293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0801 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—The Eighth U.S. Army Headquarters will lay off 300-odd of its Korean employees this year due to defense spending cuts, a U.S. Army source said Friday. It has informed 14 chapters of the union of Korean employees of the cuts and how they affect their members, he said. The lay-offs will begin at the end of this month and continue to the end of July.

A senior union official, speaking on condition of anonymity, called it absurd for USFK [U.S. Forces Korea] to let over 300 employees go at once without any preparation for unemployment even though he understood the inevitability of the manpower cut.

"We are considering every means possible, including walk-outs or strikes, to reduce the reduction as much as possible," he said. The union has some 18,000 members nationwide.

ROK-U.S. Research Team Develops New Copper Alloy

SK2102015593 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Feb 93 p 8

[Text] New copper alloy with greater functional efficiency and heat-resisting capacity has been developed by a joint Korea-U.S. research team to replace the existing materials used for semiconductor leadframes and connectors.

Poongsan Metal Co., Korea's leading copper product company, announced yesterday that the latest ally, named CDA 19015, is the product of joint efforts with Motorola Korea and the state-financed Korea Advanced Institute for Science and Technology.

Dr. Kim Sang-kil of KAIST led the research team, which developed the material by adding magnesium to PMC 102, which Kim also invented in 1984.

Motorola Korea, a subsidiary of the U.S. semiconductor and communications equipment maker Motorola, has rated the CAD 19015 leadframe "most excellent" in mechanical and physical terms as material for creating computer chips, according to Poongsan officials.

The latest alloy has high strength, electrical conductivity and thermal softening resistance.

Poongsan is producing the material at its Onsan factory in South Kyongsang Province for domestic use. It will supply the materials to the United States through its subsidiary plant, PMX Industry in Iowa, they said.

U.S. Complaint on ROK Chip Dumping Challenged

SK2002043493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0033 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—Micron Technology Co. of the United States, which stubbornly upholds its dumping allegation against South Korean semiconductors, is likely to be driven into a corner by complaints of chip shortages and price hikes from U.S. computer makers, Trade and Industry Ministry officials said Friday.

In January, U.S. semiconductor manufacturers saw orders surge 40 percent from December to 2.02 billion U.S. dollars, their first time over 2 billion dollars, the officials said. But warehouse releases barely passed 1.7 billion dollars, up 29 percent from December, and U.S. industry dreads a limit to supplies if this kind of demand growth continues. If it does, Micron Technology is expected to face difficulty in upholding the initial anti-dumping ruling against Korean memory chips at the final determination on March 15 and an International Trade Commission (ITC) hearing slated for late April, the officials said.

At the request of Micron, the U.S. Commerce Department slapped dumping margins of between 87.4 percent and 5.99 percent on Korean D-RAM (dynamic random access memory) chips in a preliminary ruling on Oct. 21 last year. Samsung Electronics Co., Goldstar Electron Co. and Hyundai Electronics Co. have since deposited cash or securities equivalent to their provisional dumping charges at the U.S. Commerce Department and a final ruling of dumping duties of over 10 percent would make their exports to the United States impossible. The U.S. administration rejected Korea's proposition of a suspension pact on anti-dumping investigations under the pretext of strong opposition by Micron.

Micron is likely to come under immense pressure from American consumers and industry because of the price hikes of semiconductor products in the U.S. market following difficulties of exports by Korea, officials said.

U.S. To Participate in Taejon Exposition

SK2202114993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0802 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—The United States became the 112th country Monday to notify South Korea that it will take part in the Taejon International Exposition, an Expo organization committee spokesman said. Raymond Burghardt, deputy chief of mission to Seoul, visited Committee Chairman O Myong and delivered Washington's official letter of intent to take part in the international expo this summer. Burghardt told O that the United States hoped to continue developing friendly relations with South Korea by taking part in the event, the spokesman said. Washington would participate in the Taejon Expo because it highly rated the century's last expo in the Asia-Pacific region, where exchanges have been boosted in various ways since the Cold War, Burghardt said. The United States will spotlight scientific technology and environmental protection in its pavilion.

Ambassador Donald Gregg held a news conference later in the afternoon at the U.S. Embassy, attended by representatives of participating American companies, including Tom Eagglestone, president of Amway Corp., to welcome official U.S. participation in the exposition.

The deadline for application is Feb. 28, the committee spokesman said, forecasting that the Taejon Expo would be the biggest specialized exposition in history by number of nations taking part.

Burma

Khin Nyunt: Laureates Acting for 'Insurgents'

BK2202104593 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Excerpts] Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], and the executive committee members of the Myanmar [Burma] Musical Association held a meeting in the Defense Ministry's Meeting Hall at 0930 this morning.

Brigadier General Myo Thant, minister of information, presided over the meeting. Mayor U Ko Lay, chairman of the Yangon [Rangoon] City Development Committee; responsible personnel; and the chairman and members of the Myanmar Musical Association executive committee also attended.

Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the SLORC, delivered an opening address at the meeting. [passage omitted on Musical Association] After discussions, Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt delivered a closing address. [passage omitted on the preservation of Myanmar culture and patriotism] He noted that there is full, civilized social development in the country. One can see in some countries that although they have economic development, their civilized social development is ruined. He also stated that some external organizations and people are wrongfully and unjustly accusing that there are human rights violations in the country. He added that they also accused the government of intimidating and torturing the public. He stessed that they are making all these accusations based on the misleading information obtained from a group of antigovernment insurgents. He continued that the insurgents and their representatives, with the intent of destroying the country, are approaching external organizations by spending a lot money and engaging in the activities to disturb [the government].

He said this money, which they received as an extortion fees, is actually from state-owned natural resources from the border areas, which are smuggled out of the country with the cooperation of traders from the other side of the country [Thailand].

He later mentioned that a group of so called Nobel prize winners, through the neighboring country [Thailand], met on February 1993. They held discussions with arm-wielding antigovernment terrorist insurgents at one border locality, while using human rights as a disguise. He said he heard that the Nobel laureates also listened to the presentations of the handful of terrorist insurgents. He stressed that these terrorist insurgents, who are a minority group, do not represent the 42 million people in Myanmar.

He continued that everybody knows the present destructive and murderous activities of the insurgents. He said the terrorist insurgents inhumanly shot and killed villagers from Pantawi Village, near Langkho recently.

He said the act of exaggerating what is being told by a group of terrorist insurgents and the Nobel laureates acting on behalf of the insurgents is an abnormal act.

He also mentioned that the most important thing for the country today is to draw up the new constitution, which is necessary for the country. Only a government with a firm constitution can rule the country systematically. [passage omitted]

Minister: Nobel Campaign Does Not Affect Thai Relations

BK2202030593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Feb 93 pp A1,A2

[Text] Burmese Deputy Foreign Minister U Nyunt Swe said yesterday he was a little disturbed by the visit of the Nobel Prize campaigners to Thailand, but it would not affect relations between the two countries.

"I am a little bit disturbed if anybody is using Thailand as a springboard to intervene in my country," said U Nyunt Swe, a former Burmese Ambassador to Thailand.

However, the visit had not affected Thai-Burmese relationships and he was fully confident of future cooperation with Thailand.

The first secretary of the military junta, Maj Gen Khin Nyunt, said yesterday Burmese leadership would never change its method of administering the country.

The state-run WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY yesterday quoted Maj Gen Khin Nyunt as saying that the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc) had successfully maintained law and order, peace and tranquility with the cooperation of the Burmese people.

He also defended the country against criticism of gross violations of human rights.

"No matter what foreign organizations do to create difficulties for Burma, it will firmly stand on its own principles and objectives," the newspaper said in its editorial column.

It claimed that Nobel prize laureates campaigning for the release of pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi were interfering in Burma's political affairs and had spread false allegations that Burma violated human rights.

The paper published a statement by Khin Nyunt that Rangoon has no restrictions on human rights and denying persecution and religious intolerance in the country.

He said external organizations and foreign radio stations had for some time tried to disrupt political activity in Burma as they could not bear to see the success the regime had achieved.

He made no direct mention of Thailand, saying only that the Nobel group had been in "a neighbouring country".

Khin Nyunt condemned the peace campaign as "untoward and perpetrated acts under the pretext of the human rights". He said Slorc was now striving for an enduring Constitution.

Minister 'Irritated' by Laureates Thailand Visit

BK2002034993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Feb 93 p A2

[Excerpt] Burmese Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw said yesterday that Burma was upset by the Nobel laureates' campaign in Thailand to free Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, but said he understood Bangkok's position.

Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan, in Burma on a four-day visit, quoted the Burmese foreign minister when speaking to reporters after a meeting with him.

"Burma feels a little bit irritated about the mission but we understand Thailand's independent policy in allowing the group to conduct the campaign on its territory," Surin quoted Gyaw as saying.

Surin was speaking after paying a courtesy call on U Ohn Gyaw at the Foreign Ministry. Surin is in Rangoon to co-chair the Joint Boundary Committee (JBC) meeting with his counterpart U Nyunt Swe.

He was initially scheduled to pay a call on Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), and on Maj Gen Khin Nyunt, SLORC secretary general, but the meeting was called off without explanation. [passage omitted]

Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Calls on Foreign Minister

BK2002080893 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Dr. Surin Phitsuwan, visiting deputy foreign minister of Thailand, called on U Ohn Gyaw, foreign minister, at 1400 today in the reception hall of the Foreign Ministry. The two ministers held cordial and frank talks on matters of mutual interest.

Present at the meeting were U Nyunt Swe, foreign minister; U Phone Myint, Myanmar [Burmese] ambassador to Thailand [name and title as heard]; Mr. Wirasak Futrakun, Thai ambassador to Myanmar [name and title as heard]; and some of the members of the Thai delegation.

Joint Border Crossing Meeting

BK1902150193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] A Thai delegation led by Mr. Surin Phitsuwan, deputy foreign minister of Thailand, called on Major General Kyaw Ba, minister of hotels and tourism and member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, this afternoon at the ministry's reception hall. During the meeting, Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Surin Phitsuwan said despite the short duration of his visit he noted that he likes Myanmar [Burma] very much and has seen for himself the beauty and various attractions of Myanmar. He said in constantly observing the changing situation in Myanmar, he feels that tourism can be an important asset for the country's development. He said it is a very good thing to allow tourists to visit Myanmar's border areas through Thailand. He said besides the current Mai Sai-Tachilek crossing, it would be very good to open the Kawthaung-Ranong route and he proposed this to the minister. Minister Maj. Gen. Kyaw Ba thanked the Thai deputy foreign minister and his delegation for their visit and said the development of the Kawthaung-Ranong route is under consideration and is likely to happen soon.

Minister, Party Depart

BK2102150693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Surin Phitsuwan, who is currently in Myanmar [Burma], jointly signed the memorandum of the first Myanmar-Thai Joint Border Committee meeting with Myanmar [Burmese] Deputy Foreign Minister U Nyunt Swe at the Foreign Ministry's annex building this evening at 1600.

The visiting Thai deputy foreign minister and entourage left Yangon [Rangoon] by special aircraft at 1715. They were seen off from the airport by U Nyunt Swe, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Phone Myint; directors general; Thai Ambassador Mr. Wirasak Futrakun; and embassy officials. The Thai deputy foreign minister and delegation went to Pagan on 20 February and visited ancient pagodas and studied Myanmar's cultural heritage and then returned to Yangon.

Than Shwe Receives Indonesian Minister

BK1902141793 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] General Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and prime minister, received an Indonesian delegation led by Mr. Radius Prawiro, coordinating minister of the Republic of Indonesia, at 0930 today at the Dagon House of the Ministry of Defense.

Present at the meeting with Gen. Than Shwe were: Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin and Lieutenant General Tin Tun, deputy prime ministers; Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the SLORC; Maj. Gen. Tin U, secretary-2 of the SLORC; U Ohn Gyaw, foreign minister; and Thura U Aung Htet, director general of protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Minister Explains Investment, Planning

BK2002090593 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Mr. Radius Prawiro, coordinating minister of the Republic of Indonesia, called on Brigadier General Abel, minister for national planning and economic development, at 1030 today at the Office of Foreign Investment Commission. During the meeting, the Indonesian minister said he had come to Myanmar to share Indonesia's success and problems in striving for economic development and that he had come to exchange views so that Indonesia could help Myanmar—a good friend of Indonesia—overcome similar problems it may confront in its endeavor for economic development. The visiting minister explained Indonesia's system of collecting revenue, foreign investment, economic planning, and import and export enterprise.

Brig. Gen. Abel, minister of national planning and economic development, said like Indonesia, Myanmar is practicing market economy and the state is doing its utmost to develop the private sector. The two ministers held cordial and frank talks on reforms in the revenue system, economic sector, and investment in Myanmar.

Minister, Party Visit Showroom

BK2102095893 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Mr. Radius Prawiro, coordinating minister of the Republic of Indonesia, and his delegation, accompanied by Thura U Aung Htet, director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, visited the Myanmar [Burma] Cooperatives Export Showroom at the ground floor of the Cooperatives Department Building, Bogyoke Aung San Road, Yangon [Rangoon], at 1330. They were welcomed on arrival by Cooperatives Minister U Than Aung and responsible personnel.

The visiting minister and entourage next viewed the export products displayed in the exhibition halls with great interest for about two hours and bought U.S.$1,200 worth of sample gold tapestry products, handwoven textiles, brass wares, and leather goods.

Cooperatives Minister U Than Aung explained details about Myanmar Cooperatives export products to the visiting minister and delegation at the Meeting Hall. Mr. Prawiro, who was once Indonesian cooperatives minister, said he was very keen and interested in the cooperatives movement and said he was happy to see the success of the cooperatives sector in Myanmar and said cooperatives activities were also encouraged in Indonesia. The visiting minister and party left the showroom at 1530.

Minister, Delegation Depart Rangoon

BK2102151093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Mr. Radius Prawiro, coordinating minister of the Republic of Indonesia, his wife, and their accompanying delegation, currently on a goodwill visit to Myanmar [Burma] at the invitation of the government, left Yangon [Rangoon] by special aircraft this morning at 0715.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon airport by Foreign Affairs Minister U Ohn Gyaw and wife; directors general; responsible personnel; and Indonesian charge d'affaires Mr. (I. Watok Hardi Dieta) and his wife.

Airline, Singapore Firm Sign Joint Venture

BK2002095293 Rangoon Radio Burma in English 0700 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] The Myanmar [Burma] Airways and the Hisonic Enterprise Private Limited of Singapore signed a joint venture agreement on external flights yesterday. The signing ceremony was held at the Inland Water Transport Head Office yesterday afternoon. The minister for transport, Lieutenant General Thein Win, delivered an address on the occasion. He said the agreement on joint venture undertaking for external flights was the first of its kind in Myanmar and it was a big step by the Ministry of Transport taken in accordance with the changing economic policy. He stressed the need for both sides to make sincere effort and work in cooperation in the long-term interest.

The managing director of the Myanmar Airways, U Khin Soe, and the managing director of the Hisonic Enterprise Private Limited, Mr. Wong Pong Kwee also spoke on the occasion and signed the agreement.

The minister for transport, Lt. Gen. Thein Win, hosted a dinner to mark the successful signing of the agreement at People's Park Restaurant yesterday evening. Also present at the dinner were the secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, Major General Khin Nyunt, and ministers and guests.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Ministry Summons Thai Envoy

BK2002132693 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Feb 93 p 3

[By Syed Abu Bakar, Rashid Yusof, and Zubaida Abu Bakar]

[Excerpt] Kuala Lumpur, Thurs.—The Thai ambassador to Malaysia, Mr. Suraphong Posayanon, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry today over the latest intrusion into Padang Besar by six Thai customs men.

A highly-placed source said a senior Wisma Putra [Foreign Ministry] official conveyed to Suraphong Malaysia's stand on the matter.

The source, however, said this was a normal procedure and the Foreign Ministry was awaiting the official reply from the Thai Embassy.

It is learnt that during the meeting Wisma Putra stressed the need for an amicable solution.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Malaysian Consulate officials had been holding discussions with Thai officials who were investigating the incident.

Abdullah, who had just returned from Pakistan, said he had yet to be fully briefed on the incident.

He was speaking to reporters before receiving the visiting Hungarian President Dr. Arpad Goncz at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Goncz, accompanied by his wife Zsuzssanna Goncz and Hungarian officials and members of the Press, arrived at 12.50 pm for a five- day visit.

Last Monday, the Thai Customs men entered Padang Besar and "seized" 300 packets of palm oil belonging to Malaysian traders.

Their action caused a stir and resulted in a decision by the Perlis Government to deploy more police and UPP [Anti-Smuggling Unit] personnel to the area to beef up security.

Perlis Menteri Besar [Chief Minister] Dr. Abdul Hamid Pawanteh said the state government would plug holes in the fence at the Malaysian-Thai border in Padang Besar and it would also clear the land in the area.

Senior Thai Customs officials were reported to have claimed that the area which their officers had entered was Thai territory. [passage omitted]

Thailand Urged To Clarify Border Regulations

BK2002141693 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Malaysia wants a 4.8 km-long three-sided wall separating Padang Besar from Pekan Siam in Thailand demolished as soon as possible to encourage legal economic activities by traders from the countries in the area. Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi was speaking to newsmen after receiving Kuwaiti Minister of Higher Education Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Rab'i at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today.

He also urged Thailand to rectify a prevailing misunderstanding among its low-ranking officials over border regulations that had been agreed upon in Thai-Malaysian Joint Commission meetings. The intrusion by six Thai customs officers into Padang Besar last Monday occurred because some of their officials were still confused over the regulations.

Hungarian President Invites Joint Ventures, Departs

BK2202071993 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] President Arpad Goncz has invited Malaysian businessmen to set up joint-venture projects in the manufacturing sector in Hungary. He said they could establish joint ventures in the assembling of buses and railway coaches, the manufacturing of electrical goods and chemicals, and tourism industry. President Goncz told a press conference that Malaysian investments were assured as both countries had signed an investment guarantee agreement. The agreement is one of the three important documents concluded during his five-day visit. The president said that Hungary should be regarded as an important entry point to the European Community. President Goncz also said that besides the business sector, Malaysia should also enhance bilateral relations through exchanges of culture and others that would benefit the peoples of both countries.

Meanwhile, President Goncz and his wife Zsuzsanna have left for home after a five-day visit to Malaysia. They were seen off at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport by Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi and his wife Datin Hendon Datuk Mahmud. Human Resources Minister Datuk Lim Ah Lek, who was minister in attendance, and his wife Datin Agnes Chong Lee Kuat were also present. Dr. Goncz and his wife called on their majesties the King Sultan Azlan Shah and Queen Tuanku Bainun at the National Palace before leaving for the airport. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and his wife Datin Sri Paduka Dr. Siti Hasmah had called on Dr. Goncz and his wife earlier to bid a bon voyage.

Taiwan Signs Investment Guarantee Accord

BK1902081193 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Malaysia and Taiwan have sealed their long-awaited investment guarantee agreement in Taipei. The lack of such an accord has often been cited by observers as the major deterrent towards more Taiwanese investments in Malaysia.

The pact was signed by the president of the North Malaysian Friendship and Trade Center in Taipei, Datuk Syed Mansur Kassim Fakram, and Taipei Economic and Cultural Center representative in Malaysia Mr. (Huang Sing Pee).

The agreement aims to broaden and deepen economic and industrial cooperation on a long-term basis. It provides the necessary mechanism for bilateral investment protection.

Taiwan is among Malaysia's top foreign investors with closed investments valid in excess of 14.7 billion ringgit and involving a total of 1,056 manufacturing projects between 1980 and 1992.

Official Stresses Importance of PRC Trade

BK1902120293 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Feb 93 p 14

[By Charles Raj]

[Text] The Malaysian economy will suffer in the event of a global recession if it does not increase its trade with China.

This was because the Chinese economy had vast potential for growth and was expected to be a dynamic one till the end of the century, Deputy International Trade and Industry Minister Chua Jui Meng said.

He said Malaysia has adopted an open economy where world trade accounted for 140 percent [as published] of its gross domestic product (GDP).

"In the case of the United States, for example, world trade accounts for only 10 percent of its GDP.

"So in the case of Malaysia, we are very vulnerable to changes in the world economy," he said at a luncheon organised by Kanzen Bhd. [Limited] for a Chinese delegation from the Shanghai Pudong Industrial Authority (SPIA) and the Shanghai Municipal Government.

Chua said that since China was regarded as the next superpower by many countries, including the United States, it was important to forge trade ties with it.

He said the Chinese economy was expected to grow at between 10 percent and 12 percent this year, while the world economy as a whole grew by just one percent last year.

A director of the SPIA, Mr Bai Wenkang, said there were a lot of business opportunities in China.

He invited Malaysian businessmen to invest in Pudong which he said was being developed into a large industrial estate.

"Malaysia is still lagging behind other ASEAN countries such as Singapore, Thailand, and the Philippines in terms of investments there. Kanzen's proposed plant will be the pioneer Malaysian investment there. We hope others will follow suit," he said.

Kanzen is setting up a RM [Malaysian ringgit] 26 million joint-venture stainless steel plant in Pudong as part of a plan to eventually list its spring mattress joint venture in Shanghai on the Shanghai Stock Exchange.

Bai said trade promotion groups would also be sent from Shanghai to Malaysia in search of business opportunities later this year.

Central Bank Releases Economic Report

BK1802165693 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 17 Feb 93 p 16

[By Charles Raj]

[Text] Malaysia's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth during the first nine months of last year was a credible eight percent, Bank Negara [Central Bank] said its latest quarterly bulletin.

The Central Bank said this rate was likely to be maintained for the year with activity improving somewhat during the final quarter.

Growth for the first half of 1992 was over nine percent, it said, and was sufficient to compensate for some moderation in the second half year.

Real GDP grew at a lower-than-expected rate of 6.4 percent during the third quarter compared with 9.1 percent in the second quarter and 9.6 percent in the corresponding quarter of.1991.

The Central Bank said the continued sluggishness of the world's economy seemed to have had an impact on the Malaysian economy in the third quarter.

Not withstanding this, the prospects for the economy for the year as a whole continued to be satisfactory, the Central Bank said in its review of the third quarter.

It said some moderation in growth was not necessarily undesirable as the economy consolidated to a more sustainable growth path after very rapid expansion the past few years.

Moreover, the moderation thus far was confined to only a few specific industries in the manufacturing, mining, and agriculture sectors whereas activity in the construction and services sectors remained rather strong.

The slowdown in the manufacturing sector, for instance, appeared to have affected mostly Japanese firms in the electronics and electrical industry mainly because of the lingering economic malaise in Japan.

In contrast, the majority of the firms in the manufacturing industry, especially the American companies, continued to remain generally optimistic.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) continued to rise strongly by 5.1 percent during the third quarter (4.6 percent in the second quarter) reflecting higher prices for most of the major consumer items namely food, transport and communications, gross rent, fuel, and power.

The producer price index also rose at a faster rate of 2.3 percent, arising from stronger growth in the prices of locally-produced goods which more than offset the decline in imports.

Due to the moderation in deposits and strong growth in loans, the deposit-loan surplus of the banking system was reduced to RM [Malaysian ringgit] 3.1 billion in the third quarter (from RM 6.4 billion the previous quarter).

On the external front, Bank Negara said the trade account recorded another surplus in October, with the trade balance turning around to record a surplus of RM 322 million during the first 10 months of 1992 (a deficit of RM 6.8 billion in Jan-Oct 1991).

There was also a moderation in private sector demand during the third quarter with loans for personal consumption moderating further to 11.7 percent from 18.5 percent in the preceding quarter.

Private investment appeared to have moderated as reflected in the marginal growth of imports of intermediate goods and sales of commercial vehicles.

The international reserves of the Central Bank increased significantly by RM 6.7 billion during the third quarter to RM 42.8 billion at the end of September sufficient to finance 5.1 months of retained imports (the highest level since December 1988).

Singapore

Paper Views Clinton Economic Plan

BK2102143793 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Feb 93 p 32

[Editorial: "So Americans Must Pitch In"]

[Text] The Bill Clinton economic recovery plan which Americans and an apprehensive world had been waiting for is mean and exciting in equal measure. For middle-income Americans who were inclined to invest their new president with messiah-like qualities of resuscitation after the dreariness of the Bush years and the latter part of Reagan's tenure, his proposed higher taxes, welfare payments and energy must seem like betrayal. And so early in his presidency, too. Political judgment and economic necessity cross here. Think how it must have unnerved Mr. Clinton to have to go back on a promise to spare the middle class; to be candid about having been wrong with the tax revenue figures, hence the about-turn, took character. Americans, it is hoped, will not be hasty about judging him and would resist ditching this element of the package which seeks to address their country's basic weakness, which is balancing outgoings with the wealth generated.

It took courage of another kind to take on the defence contractors and their powerful persuaders by slashing U.S.$76 billion from their budget over the next four years. Mr. Ronald Reagan, in his two terms as president, fattened the armaments and rocket makers with generous allocations for what remain virtual- reality systems—like Star Wars—because, he said, the United States had to be strong to fight the "evil empire" and nasty communists lurking everywhere. We make no judgment whether he had read the wrong books. But Mr. Clinton is free of that bogey. The question to ask is, should he not have been more daring with the defence cuts now that military and ideological threats are greatly reduced? Defence Secretary Les Aspin, while still a Congressman, had worked out that a defence budget of the size Mr. Clinton contemplates by 1997 would pay for a military establishment sufficient to mount a Persian Gulf-type operation and at the same time, tackle a crisis elsewhere. While the more niggardly of America's allies would have things to say about that, cognizance need be taken of Mr. Clinton's domestic concerns. What is more, the deficit reduction for the next two years would come on the back of new taxes and not spending cuts. Here, it is easy for public cynicism to spill over into opposition in Congress despite Mr. Clinton's Democrats having control of both chambers.

As for America's allies and trading partners, what matters is not whether the proposed spending cuts of U.S.$253 billion over four years and the impact of higher taxes on consumption actually make for a deflationary programme, while it is being sold by Mr. Clinton and his Cabinet ministers in nation-wide tours as a "stimulus" to the economy. The crucial point is that, one, the intended deficit cut is the most drastic since World War II and two, not since Lyndon Johnson in the early 60's has an American president been bold enough to present a programme of social and fiscal change this diverse. These are the bald figures: annual deficit now of U.S.$300 billion to be cut by $140 billion by 1997. Trimming budget deficits, or doing nothing about them, has brought grief to not a few presidents.

Mr. Clinton deserves the plaudits he has received in early polls, for sincerity if nothing else, in wanting to revitalise America by tackling the one systemic weakness that his immediate predecessors had reinforced with ill-conceived policies of spend-and-be-happy. In answering questions after the election about his apparent indifference about foreign affairs, he said America had to be strong again at home before it could make an impression abroad. A broad mental leap, that, but Asian governments, as much as in Europe, accept the co-relation between a healthy American market and their own well-being. Mr. Clinton may yet fail as, between statement of intent, as his State of the Union address was, and fruition, lies a vast public that has to be convinced that what he proposes is worthwhile. The hope must be that the people feel the same.

Cambodia

Enemy 'Offensives' Against Pailin 'Routed'

BK1902042993 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] According to sources of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK], on 29, 30, and 31 January 1993, the Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors and their puppets gathered many divisions of their troops—namely Divisions 4, 6, 196, the old 7, the city's 9, and

Brigades 92, 94, and 95—in an attempt to attack and seize Pailin from the Party of Democratic Kampuchea. The Yuon aggressors and the puppets organized and launched a four-pronged offensive:

—The first prong attacked from Route 56; the number of troops involved in this attack is the largest of all the four prongs.
—The second prong attacked Prey Thom;
—The third prong attacked from Kirichum; and
—The fourth prong attacked from Phnum Veng.

However, this large-scale offensive by the Yuon aggressors and their puppets was routed by the NADK.

The NADK sources also report that by 1 February, the Yuon aggressors and their puppets gathered their troops and launched another offensive to take Pailin for the second time; they were again routed by the NADK. The sources say that on 10, 11, and 12 February, the Yuon aggressors and their puppets rounded up all their troops from the above units—which were smashed by the NADK twice already—to launch another offensive for the third time in an attempt to take Pailin. However, the NADK again routed these troops.

Here are the results of the routing of the three offensives by the Yuon aggressors and their puppets:

I. Destruction:

1. We killed or wounded a number of enemy troops;
2. We destroyed a number of tanks;
3. We destroyed some weapons and a quantity of ammunition; and
4. We destroyed two enemy water-carrying trucks;

II. Seizure:

1. We captured a number of soldiers; and
2. We seized a number of assorted weapons and ammunition.

The NADK sources say that the National Army succeeded in routing the above offensives of the Yuon aggressors and puppets because of the following major factors:

1. Enemy troops were large in number but they lacked a fighting spirit. The first-class troops of enemy forces were former soldiers whose number was small; the enemies had to use the police force as a reinforcement. The fighting spirit of this police force is very weak.

2. The provincial and district troops of the enemies, who were routed many times before, fought only briefly and then abandoned the battlefield.

3. A number of puppet troops were refugees recently repatriated from Site K and Site 2 camps by the United Nations and forced to fight by the Yuon and puppets. At the sound of gunfire, these troops dispersed and fled because the NADK attacked from the front, the back, and the flank.

4. In the offensives to seize Pailin from Democratic Kampuchea, the enemies did not have the support and assistance of the people and state authority.

5. The enemies were not in control of the geography while the NADK was in charge of this. The enemies had to bring water from Kamping Puoy to supply their troops who were attacking Pailin. Their water-carrying trucks had been successively attacked and burned by the NADK.

The offensives by the Yuon aggressors and puppets in an attempt to take Pailin town were gross violations of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. These attacks seriously affected the property and lives of the people, including the refugees who were forced by the Yuon and puppets to fight on the battlefield, particularly on the Pailin battlefield.

The above situation has further clearly made the Cambodian people and the world realize that the violators of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement are the Yuon and puppets; the perpetrators of political terrorist activities to kill the people and various political parties are also the Yuon and puppets; and those who launched offensives against the resistance forces are also the Yuon and puppets.

KR Say Offensive in Moung-Pursat 'Smashed'

BK2002045793 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Sources of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] say that from 1 to 10 February 1993 the Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors and their puppets gathered their troops from Division 94, the Pursat Provincial Division, Division 92, Regiment 9, Division 95, the Battambang provincial troops, and some reinforcement troops from Phnom Penh, backed by tanks and artillery pieces, to attack the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] in Moung-Pursat in an attempt to seize the liberated areas of Democratic Kampuchea [DK].

The sources say that the Yuon aggressors and their puppets launched a three-pronged offensive against the DK-liberated zones.

—On the first prong, the Yuon and puppets attacked from Russei Krang using troops of Division 94 and the Pursat provincial troops.

—On the second prong, the Yuon and their puppets attacked from Samraong and Phnum Ari. Troops used on this prong were from Division 92 and Regiment 9.

—On the third prong, the Yuon and their puppets started out from Basak village using troops from Division 95, the Battambang provincial troops, and about two regiments of reinforcement forces brought from Phnom Penh.

The sources say that by 10 February the NADK had routed and dispersed the large-scale offensive of the Yuon aggressors and their puppets. Here are the results of this operation:

I. Destruction:

1. We destroyed a tank of the Yuon and puppets and two big trucks;
2. We destroyed a large number of assorted weapons and much ammunition; and
3. We killed 39 and wounded 42 enemy soldiers.

II. Seizure:

1. We seized 23 assorted guns, a map, and another quantity of war materiel; and
2. We captured four enemy soldiers.

The NADK sources also say that the offensive of the Yuon and their puppets has been smashed by the NADK because a number of troops were refugees recently repatriatred to Cambodia by the United Nations, and these refugees had been forcibly drafted by the Yuon and puppets. These new soldiers have not fought before and have no fighting experience; thus, they have no spirit to fight. Another number of troops have already fought; they have the experience of being frequently routed.

The Yuon and puppets were unable to deploy a large number of troops; they thus had to use small forces. When they do this, they need to deploy their small forces; and when this happens, their forces are weak because their commanders are not always present. Furthermore, the Yuon and puppets have no people and state authority; therefore, if they deploy their forces in small groups, they have no fighting capability.

The offensive by the Yuon aggressors and their puppets against the PDK-controlled zones has further clearly and increasingly made the Cambodian nation and people, as well as the international community, recognize their hideous faces as the violators of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. The Yuon and their puppets are the ones who have carried out various terrorist activities; they are the ones who have grossly violated the cease-fire and launched offensives against the national resistance forces, particularly against DK.

Sihanouk Statement on Presidential Poll Viewed

BK2002050993 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of

[Text] On 14 February 1993, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], issued a statement on his decision to not take part in the presidential and assembly elections. Following is the essence of the statement:

In their reports on French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Cambodia, some French journalists wrote that the prince rejected France's proposal on holding the presidential election ahead of the assembly election. On this issue the prince has made the following clarification:

1. Some major foreign powers beside the five major powers on the UN Security Council, and a number of Cambodian political parties have opposed holding the presidential election ahead of the assembly election. Because of political differences around this presidential election, I have been forced to withdraw myself from this presidential election.

2. The Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] have fully rejected and firmly condemned the results of the elections to be organized by UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] in May 1993.

The majority of losing parties or sides will also reject the results of these elections saying they lost because of UNTAC's bias; because large numbers of male and female Yuon [Vietnamese] nationals, disguising themselves as Cambodians, took part in the elections; and because Cambodians abroad and in Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory now part of southern Vietnam] did not take part in the elections.

In such a situation, I am very worried that after the May 1993 elections, confusion, instability, insecurity, and even war will break out. Therefore, I have decided not to stand in the presidential election, which has been rejected and denounced by the PDK and the NADK. In fact, these elections will result in the partitioning of my motherland, of which I am the symbol of national unity and territorial integrity.

I will not take part in the presidential election regardless of when this is held, whether in May or June 1993. My Cambodia and the Cambodian people need a neutral Prince Norodom Sihanouk who did not take part in the elections rejected by the majority of Cambodians.

I refuse to take part in the presidential election in order to prevent Cambodia from being partitioned and drawn into a civil war, which would degrade the Cambodian race. Only by putting myself above various sides and political parties and remaining outside the UNTAC elections can I ensure that I can save the sinking Cambodian ship.

Sihanouk Issues Dispatch 'Clarification'

BK2102071093 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Dear listeners: On 17 February 1993, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], issued a clarification:

In an AFP dispatch from New York dated 16 February, I noted some statements that have compelled me to make the following clarifications:

1. AFP writes: Butrus-Ghali has expressed regret over the decision by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Cambodian SNC, to postpone to a later date the presidential election, which ought to be held at the same time as the legislative election. Affirming that he understands and respects HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk's reasons, the secretary general still thinks that the presidential election would improve the prospects of national reconciliation in Cambodia and bring about stability, most important for the remainder of the transitional period.

This is my clarification on this point.

If UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] and His Excellency [H.E.] UN secretary general think that it is beneficial to organize an (?early) presidential election, which should be held at the same time as the legislative election, it is not in Norodom Sihanouk's power or desire to prevent this; it is quite the opposite.

However, because of reasons concerning Cambodia's national interest, which I have shown, explained, and specially affirmed many times in February 1993, I believe that it is my duty not to take part in UNTAC's presidential election. I again stress that I have no power or desire to oppose holding the presidential election first. There are already two opposition candidates, and there will be many and more important candidates taking part in the UNTAC- organized presidential election. However, as a free Cambodian citizen, I have the right not to be a candidate in this election.

I think that by not involving myself in the election firmly denounced by the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK]/Khmer Rouge, I will be able to cleanly preserve my moral power as the father of the nation and father of neutrality above various sides and political parties, as the conciliator and the bridge among these sides and parties, as the unifier, and the rebuilder when the time arrives for Cambodia's national unity and territorial integrity.

If I take part in the UNTAC-organized presidential election, in the eyes of the PDK and the NADK I would be the one favoring a solution favoring Vietnam, and I can no longer improve the prospects of Cambodian national reconciliation and bring about stability, most important for the remainder of the transitional period, the way UN Secretary General H.E. Butrus Butrus-Ghali wanted.

The correctness of my solution to the Cambodian problem as explained above has been fully recognized by the PDK and the NADK, which on this matter have just sent me an official message in Cambodian, signed by Khieu Samphan and Son Sen. I have asked that the full text of this important message in Cambodian be disseminated today, 17 February 1993.

2. AFP further says that in his report H.E. Butrus-Ghali reminded that all Cambodian sides are primarily responsible for the implementation of the Paris agreement and that they should not wait for the international community to decide on what they themselves have failed to achieve.

On this issue I must make the following corrections:

A. Having solemnly taken part in the Paris agreement on Cambodia on 23 October 1991, I have already done and will do the maximum to ensure that this agreement is successful in my meagre capacity and in accordance with my means.

It is because of me that many decisions were made in 1991, 1992, and 1993 by H.E. Yasushi Akashi and various UNTAC components and other international organizations because if one talks about the Supreme National Council [SNC], these decisions were blocked sometimes by the PDK, sometimes by the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, and sometimes by the State of Cambodia.

I could overcome opposition from this or that side because of the respect, love, and understanding that the four Cambodian parties and their leaders have for and offered me.

B. In accordance with the spirit and meaning of the above-mentioned Paris agreement, it is UNTAC that is the international community in Cambodia, and is the one holding power to take measures or make decisions relating to the current and future destiny of Cambodia.

The SNC has no power whatsoever. Because they are not the power holders, one cannot hold the Cambodian parties represented in the SNC responsible for the failure of the peace process.

C. To conclude that all Cambodian parties have achieved success, first of all, the Cambodian nation should be granted full sovereignty, such as in the case of the transfer of all power by France to the Cambodia of Norodom Sihanouk in 1953 and the departure of French union troops from the Kingdom of Cambodia on 9 November 1953.

The fact is that the sign of responsibility cannot be separated from the sign of power. Speaking this way does not mean that I oppose the extension of UNTAC in Cambodia beyond May 1993 after the elections. However, it is UNTAC with the participation of the new National Assembly and the new government resulting from the May 1993 elections that will be responsible for the failure or success of the peace process in Cambodia. I wish them success.

KR Supports Sihanouk Decision

BK2002045393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] On 16 February 1993, His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], and H.E. Son Sen, vice chairman of the PDK and SNC member, sent a message to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, voicing support and assistance for the new statement by the prince, dated 14 February, on his decision to no longer take part in the presidential election ahead of the assembly election. Following is the message in full:

Respected Prince: All of us are honored to have received your statement dated 14 February 1993. All of us would like to ask you to accept our most profound thanks and we express our respect and heartfelt and sincere admiration for your clear thinking on the current and future situations of our Cambodia country and nation following the elections to be organized by the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

All of us firmly believe that with you nobly holding aloft the banner of patriotism—and although the situation in the future will be very complex—the overwhelming majority of the nation and people will follow you in your role as leader of the nation and of our people in order to liberate our beloved Cambodian motherland and to make Cambodia an independent and peaceful country with territorial integrity, the way it was during your era prior to March 1970.

It is with these sentiments that all of us would like to express to you our most profound respect and love for you and also respect and sentiments to the royal consort.

[Dated] 16 February
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, PDK chairman and SNC member;
Son Sen, PDK vice chairman and SNC member

KR Offensive in Kompong Thom Reported 18 Feb

BK2102131993 Hong Kong AFP in English 1224 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] PHNOM PENH, Feb 21 (AFP)—Nine U.N. personnel were stuck in Preah Vihear Province with Khmer Rouge guerrillas demanding that they hand over their vehicles, the U.N. spokesman said Sunday.

The group were not hostages or detainees, spokesman Eric Falt emphasised. They had gone to a pre-arranged meeting Saturday morning with local Khmer Rouge forces. When the meeting ended around noon, the peacekeepers were informed they could leave whenever they wanted, Falt said. However, they could not take their white, four-wheel-drive vehicles with them, Falt said. "This was refused of course and they stayed to try and negotiate their departure with their vehicles," Falt said. "So far they have failed and they spent the night still there," he said.

The U.N. team was comprised of three Pakistani soldiers, plus American, Malaysian, and Uruguayan military observers, a Singaporean civilian policeman, an American electoral officer and a Cambodian interpreter. They were equipped with hand-held radios and were in communication with the U.N. sector headquarters.

The Preah Vihear sector command was working with U.N. headquarters in Phnom Penh to try and solve the problem. "I can confirm that they are safe and sound. We are not worried about their safety. We are just trying to get them back with their two or three vehicles," Falt said.

In a previous incident late last year in Kompong Thom, Indonesian peacekeepers were forced to hand over their Nissan 4x4 truck to Khmer Rouge guerrillas. It was later reported by Phnom Penh soldiers who captured the area to have been torched.

Falt did not specify the exact location of this latest harassment of U.N. personnel, but said it was an area where the Khmer Rouge were very active.

The United Nations "has not had too many problems before" in the area, Falt said. However, there had been tension recently in Preah Vihear between the Phnom Penh government forces and the Khmer Rouge guerrillas, Falt said.

The Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh were not available for comment on this latest incident. Since December 1992, the Khmer Rouge have been responsible for a spate of more than a half dozen kidnappings and detentions of U.N. personnel.

The radical faction has accused the peacekeepers of spying for the "Vietnamese aggressors" and their "puppet forces in Phnom Penh." U.N. officials have dismissed the accusations as absurd.

Meanwhile Phnom Penh government military spokesman General Phan Thay accused the Khmer Rouge of launching an offensive in the Stung district of the militarily contested province of Kompong Thom. Starting February 18, the general claimed that 200 to 300 troops of the Khmer Rouge's 616 division attacked and overran three government positions, Luak, Botun and Svay Rieng.

The Khmer Rouge were using a lot of heavy artillery—107mm rockets, DK-82 and DK-75mm recoilless rifles—as well as mortar fire, Phan Thay claimed.

Refugees had fled to both Kompong Thom and Siem Reap provincial capitals. But the general had no reports of the numbers of refugees or the number of casualties. Nor was he able to comment on whether the fighting was ongoing.

A U.N. official said he was highly sceptical of the report of the Khmer Rouge offensive, and suggested it was for propagada purposes. There was sporadic shelling and fighting in that area regularly, he said.

Spokesman Confirms KR Offensive

BK2202142793 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Feb 93

["Communique of the spokesman of the Defense Ministry of the State of Cambodia" issued in Phnom Penh on 22 February—read by announcer]

[Text] According to a 21 February AFP report, 200 to 300 troops of the Khmer Rouge's [KR] 616th Division began an attack on 18 February and overran three positions held by government troops at L'ak, Botum, and Svay Rieng. General Pan Thai accused the Khmer Rouge of using a lot of heavy artillery—107-mm rockets, DK-82 and DK-75mm recoilless rifles, and mortars. Refugees fled to provincial towns in both Kompong Thom and Siem Reap.

The AFP report added that a UN official said he was sceptical of the report of a Khmer Rouge offensive and suggested that it was for propaganda purposes.

The spokesman of the Defense Ministry of the State of Cambodia [SOC] would like to reaffirm that Kompong Thom Province is a strategic region which the genocidal Khmer Rouge rebels planned to seize through military force even before the Paris peace agreement was signed. Stoung District is the hottest spot in the province and the Khmer Rouge want to seize the district for use as a springboard to expand their territory. This is why the genocidal Khmer Rouge rebels have kept committing barbarous violations in the zone, which is under control of the SOC side. They have caused many casualties among the people and losses of their property. They also fired at UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] planes and captured UNTAC officials on many occasions.

The SOC Defense Ministry's spokesman would like to stress once again that all the reported military violations committed by genocidal Khmer Rouge rebels in Stoung District of Kompong Thom Province are actual events of which we have sufficient and irrefutable proof.

The comment by a UN official, as reported by AFP, that he was sceptical of the report on the Khmer Rouge offensive and his suggestion that it was for propaganda purposes is an utter distortion. We regard such an erroneous suggestion as showing contempt for the lives and misery of thousands of people in Stoung District, who are fleeing to avoid being attacked and massacred by the genocidal Khmer Rouge rebels.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 22 February 1993.

PDK Accuses UNTAC of Complicity With SRV

BK2202060493 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] At a news conference at the office of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] in Phnom Penh on 19 February, the PDK spokesman said the tense and complicated situation in Cambodia at present stems from the refusal by the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] aggressors, Yuon puppets, and UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] chieftains to implement the Paris accord. He added that national and international opinion is well aware that the Yuon aggressors and their puppets have furthered their war of invasion and occupation of Cambodia, insolently encroaching on the accord.

The Yuon aggressors and their puppets, he further said, have marshalled their forces to launch offensive attacks against the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces [CNRF] in many areas, especially Kompong Thom, Siem Reap, Battambang, and Moung-Pursat, wreaking havoc with the people and their property by plundering belongings, paddy, rice, and burning their houses. This is the Yuon's war of aggression during the 15th dry season and their second dry-season offensive since the Paris 23 October 1991 accord came into existence. The Cambodian people and the CNRF vehemently condemn the maneuvers, which are in gross violation of the Paris accord.

Concerning the military aspect, he said, the Yuon's and puppets' fighting forces have significantly weakened compared with previous dry seasons; they have especially fallen short in fighting spirit since a large number of the puppet soldiers are newly drafted recruits, including recently repatriated refugees. In fighting on the Bavel-Route 10, Kompong Thom, and Moung-Pursat battlefields, the Yuon aggressors and puppets were attacked and dismantled by the CNRF one after the other, causing heavy losses in both manpower and war materiel.

What is the purpose the Yuon aggressors and their puppets' persistent military activities in this 15th dry season? Observers and foreign military strategists as well as the Yuon aggressors and their puppets themselves clearly realize that the Yuon and their puppets cannot win by means of military war. The 13-year battle has unambiguously attested to the fact that the Yuon have been shamefully and strategically defeated despite their all-out efforts.

What is the Yuon enemies' and their puppets' present goal? Their main goal is to serve their stratagem concerning elections which are jointly organized by UNTAC and the Yuon aggressors and their puppets. The current military activities are part of a scheme jointly concocted by the Yuon aggressors, the Phnom Penh puppets, and the UNTAC chieftains. It is this scheme that sparked off incidents involving UNTAC staff members repeatedly intruding into PDK-controlled regions to gather intelligence on the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK]. Bad persons within UNTAC have given money and military supplies to the Yuon aggressors and the puppet troops, and UNTAC has allowed the forces of the Yuon aggressors and puppets to mobilize reinforcements at will and to take out armaments from UNTAC warehouses. Moreover, some UNTAC personnel have gone so far as to help organize and encourage the forces of the Yuon aggressors and puppets at forward positions as well.

Had there been no complicity from UNTAC, the Yuon aggressors and puppets would not have insolently and cruelly launched such military activities at will. Only with connivance from UNTAC could the Yuon aggressors and their puppets ship tanks, heavy artillery, and multiple rocket launchers to Kompong Thom, Siem Reap, and Battambang. They trucked the war materiel via Routes 5 and 6 and by train under UNTAC's own eyes. The military activities conducted by the Yuon aggressors and their puppets in this 15th dry season with the conspiracy of the UNTAC chieftains are aimed at intimidating and forcing people to take part in the manipulative elections organized in an environment marked by the fascist rule of the Yuon and their puppets and in a situation where insecurity is widespread and secret puppet police units have increased their acts of political terrorism across the country.

At present, holding such elections would be tantamount to rubber stamping the ongoing Yuon invasion and occupation of Cambodia and handing over the country to the Yuon with the blessing of the United Nations. This is the cause of the Yuon's continued control over Cambodia by means of military and human war and Yuon settlers who continue to enter in order to swallow Cambodia. And this also makes the situation in Cambodia increasingly tense and complicated now and in the future.

Who is responsible for the complicated situation? The national and international communities uninamously believe that it is the Yuon aggressors and their puppets and the UNTAC chieftains who should shoulder the responsibility. As for the CNRF and the Cambodian people, they are the party who has consistently called for the correct execution of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord, especially the essential provisions demanding that the SNC be allowed to have a role to play and that UNTAC verify and control the withdrawal of all categories of Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia and cooperate with the SNC to control the five ministries. The CNRF and the Cambodian people pledge to further join forces and heighten their vigilance in order to smash and defeat the enemy's military, political, and diplomatic stratagems one after the other.

Officials Report Khmer Rouge Issue Own Money

OW2002112493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1105 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb. 20 KYODO—The Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction is issuing its own currency in areas it controls in apparent preparation for a division of Cambodia after general elections due in May, Phnom Penh government officials said Saturday.

Government troops seized bills of five different denominations from Khmer Rouge positions in the northwest province of Kompong Thom during a weeklong offensive from January 29, the officials said.

KYODO News Service obtained from the security authorities four kinds of "riel" bills, the same name as the national currency.

The signature of the Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan and pictures of farm work featuring cows are printed on the notes.

The Thai baht is circulated in the Khmer Rouge-controlled areas, but the exchange rate between Khmer Rouge's riel and the baht is unknown, the officials said.

The issuance of the Khmer Rouge riel shows the faction "is obviously proceeding with preparations for dividing the nation after the general elections," an official said.

The Khmer Rouge, which with two allied guerrilla groups battled the Phnom Penh government until the 1991 Paris peace accord, has refused to disarm or join in UN-organized general elections.

Committee Rejects FUNCINPEC-UNTAC Protest

BK2102092893 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 20 Feb 93

["Rejection of the protest by FUNCINPEC and UNTAC"—read by announcer]

[Text] The military coordination committee of the First Military Region would like to reject the protest by the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], who made up a story in Siem Pang District concerning events that took place at the FUNCINPEC office there on 4 February 1993.

Our cooperation committee has conducted an investigation and agreed with UNTAC staff at that office concerning the ransacking of the FUNCINPEC office. In fact, a group of enemies did ransack that office but this was not carried out by the Cambodian People's Armed Forces, with documents torn up as stated in the protest note.

After the investigation, our committee agreed with UNTAC and military forces stationed there and assessed the situation in these terms: it was the force of another party that provoked this event and created confusion among FUNCINPEC. The report and protest note that FUNCINPEC and UNTAC have colluded to make up affects our cooperation committee. We therefore reject this protest note and consider it null and void.

The aim of the protest concerning the incident at the FUNCINPEC office at 0800 on 5 February is to create confusion in the political situation in the State of Cambodia [SOC] and misunderstanding between the people.

The SOC is currently administered by the Cambodian People's Party. Other parties are thus competing to win votes and members. And when incidents have occurred, the blame has been put on the SOC, saying the SOC troops are the provocateurs.

Concerning the above incidents, based on reports from the locality, our cooperation committee would like to specify to authorities at UNTAC bases to first clearly examine all events and check with us, the SOC side, before lodging those protests.

Private Groups Urge Political Sanction of KR

BK2002031193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Feb 93 p 5

[Text] Twenty western non-governmental organisations [NGOs] in Cambodia have urged the UN Security Council and signatory governments of the Paris Peace Agreement to suspend diplomatic recognition of the Khmer Rouge and the right of its leadership to sit on the Supreme National Council (SNC).

They demanded that the Khmer Rouge leadership be held responsible for crimes against humanity.

The NGOs, including Oxfam America, World Vision International, Australian Catholic Relief, and Save the Children Fund Australia, also recommended:

—Giving UNTAC the power to deal effectively with all perpetrators of human rights violations;
—Giving UNTAC the power to protect all Cambodians against continued abuses by the Khmer Rouge;
—Giving UNTAC the power to guarantee free and fair elections;
—Adopting a clear plan of action for the elections, detailing how the international community will assist the newly-elected government to deal with threats to peace and stability;
—Honouring Tokyo's pledges of support for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Cambodia, and ensuring that the necessary financial and technical assistance is released now to prevent further suffering by millions of Cambodians; and
—Accelerating and expanding mine clearing operations.

In their statement, dated February 10 the NGOs noted that more than 15 months after the signing of the Paris peace accord, there have been more failures than successes in achieving its objectives.

They said some of the achievements are threatened and weakened by the failure to achieve the most important goals of the accord, including:

—To disarm the various armed forces and demobilise at least 70 per cent of their troops;
—To create a neutral political environment necessary for free and fair elections;
—To reintegrate returning refugees into local communities due to poor basic infrastructure and services, including the presence of millions of mines
—To secure respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and territorial integrity, particularly with regard to immigration exploitation of natural resources and land speculation; and
—To fulfill commitments by the international community for the rehabilitation of Cambodia prior to the elections.

The NGOs accused Thailand and Vietnam particularly of exploitation of natural resources and land speculation in Cambodia.

Indian Government Delegation Arrives for Visit

BK2002054093 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] A delegation from the Republic of India led by (Salman Ghoda), secretary of the Indian Government, arrived at 1200 on 19 February for a three-day visit to Cambodia from 19 to 21 February.

Greeting the delegation at Pochentong Airport were Ung Sean, deputy foreign minister of the State of Cambodia; and many leading officials of the Foreign Ministry. His Excellency Chandra Mohan Bhandari, ambassador of the Republic of India to Cambodia, was also present.

Meet With Hor Namhong 19 Feb

BK2002061693 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 19 February at the Foreign Ministry of the State of Cambodia [SOC], His Excellency [H.E.] Hor Namhong, foreign minister, held cordial talks with (Salman Ghoda), secretary of the Republic of India.

During the talks H.E. Hor Namhong briefed the guest on SOC efforts to implement the peace agreement and to find genuine peace and security for the Cambodian people. He also thanked the Indian Government and people for their moral and material assistance to the the Cambodian people's rebirth over the past 14 years, particularly efforts to rehabilitate and restore the Angkor temples.

Replying, (Salman Ghoda) talked about his goal of seeking understanding on implementing the peace agreement in Cambodia and also visiting the Indian troops which form part of the United Nations peacekeeping force in Cambodia.

Chea Sim Visits Locality Near Phnom Penh

BK2102105393 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] On the morning of 20 February, His Excellency [H.E.] Chea Sim, chairman of the Central Committee of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, presided over the inauguration of the (Sam-ar) bridge and a school at Vat (Sam-ar) monastery in Peam Toek commune, Phnum Penh district, Kandal Province.

Among those who also attended were H.E. Kong Sam-ol, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Vong Sot, member of CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Kandal provincial party committee and people's committee; U Sam-uon, chairman of the Phnum Penh district party committee and people's committee; and many leading officials from state establishments in Kandal Province and Phnum Penh district. About 13,000 teachers, students, monks, Buddhist disciples, and people also took part in welcoming H.E. Chea Sim on this occasion.

It is worth noting that the school at Vat (Sam-ar) monastery was built at a cost of seven million riel—with one million coming from the CPP, one million from Cambodian residents abroad, and the remaining five million from students' parents, teachers, monks, and Buddhist disciples. This school has been opened and named (Sam-ar) Junior High School. It has two buildings with seven classrooms and 223 students.

The (Sam-ar) bridge was built at a cost of 7,255,200 riel, a gift from the CPP, the Kandal provincial party committee and people's committee, and generous persons. Grandfather Im, (Bou Mor) and his son named (Im Men) living in the United States, contributed 230,000 riel; Chey Choan, Cambodian resident in France, 51[illegible],000 riel; and Chea Choeun and Neou Cheng, 105 sacks of cement. Monks, the monastery committee, Buddhist disciples, and people in (Sam-ar) commune contributed 1,910,000 riel.

On this occasion, H.E. Chea Sim talked to cadres and state employees, teachers, students, monks, and disciples and sincerely praised the great and invaluable achievement in the construction of the bridge, road, and the monastery school. H.E. Chea Sim also conveyed the sentiments of H.E. Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the CPP and chairman of the Council of State; and of H.E. Hun Sen, vice chairman of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to compatriots, monks, disciples, teachers, students, and people in the entire Phnum Penh district.

H.E. Chea Sim informed the audience about the current situation in Cambodia, particularly since the signing of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, and the correct implementation of the agreenment by the State of Cambodia [SOC] Government in close cooperation with United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia. H.E. Chea Sim talked about the serious repercussions caused by the Khmer Rouge who have refused to abide by and implement the peace agreement at every stage. This side has successively violated and launched attacks on our SOC side in a number of provinces and districts, killing or wounding a large number of our people. Some social and national accomplishments have also been destroyed, such as hospitals, schools, monasteries, bridges, and roads. Furthermore, the Khmer Rouge have also dispatched forces to carry out terrorism, to rob, and kill our people in a number of townships, villages, and communes. This has created insecurity in an attempt to hinder the preparations for the forthcoming elections.

This ceremony ended in a very happy and cordial atmosphere after H.E. Chea Sim offered a gift of 3,200,000 riel to monks and the committee in charge of building the bridge. He also presented gifts to monks and a sum of money to Buddhist disciples and a number of families of fallen and disabled cadres and combatants, and inspected some buildings.

Indonesia

Trade Minister Views Clinton Economic Proposals

BK2002070093 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] The economic policy of the U.S. Government under President Bill Clinton, which recently called for a tax increase, will not affect Indonesia's exports to that country. Trade Minister Arifin Siregar noted that President Clinton's decision to raise taxes is one way to reduce the country's budget deficit. However, the tax increase will be adjusted to the income level of the U.S. society so it will not have a strong impact on the people's purchasing power.

Consortium Plans 1995 Palapa C-1 Launch

BK2102095693 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 Feb 93 p 2

[Excerpt] Jakarta, KOMPAS—Satelit Indonesia Co. Ltd. (Satelindo), a consortium of Bima Graha Co. Ltd., Telkom Co. Ltd., and Indosat Co. Ltd. have earmarked 500 billion rupiah for satellite communications services in Indonesia. The amount does not include another 100 billion rupiah that must be paid to the government.

Satelindo plans to build a main satellite control station which will cost at least 25 billion rupiah. This consortium will also obtain a U.S. $300-million loan from the U.S. Export-Import Bank to finance the launching of the Palapa C-1 communications satellite in 1995.

This was disclosed separately to reporters by J.L. Parapak, secretary general of the Department of Tourism, Posts, and Telecommunications; Bambang Triharmojo, president of the board of commissioners of Bimantara Group; Setyanto P. Santosa, director of Telkom Co. Ltd.; and Cahyono Setyo Dibroto, director of Indosat Co. Ltd. after the minister of tourism, posts, and telecommunications installed first- and second-echelon officials in Jakarta on 2 February.

Parapak said Satelindo's total capital of 600 billion rupiah is shared by the three companies with Bima Graha Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of the Bimantara Group, holding 60 percent, Telkom Co. Ltd. 30 percent, and Indosat Co. Ltd. 10 percent of the equity share. The capital will be used for satellite business, cellular phone services, and international business. Parapak said: "Satelindo will build a main control station for the Palapa C satellite generation in Jakarta at an almost similar cost as the construction of the Palapa B control station in Cibinong—namely, about 25 billion rupiah." [passage omitted]

Dailies View New Armed Forces Commander

BK2002094993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 20 Feb 93

[From the press review]

[Text] SUARA KARYA discusses remarks made by new Armed Forces Commander General Edi Sudrajat after he was installed by President Suharto yesterday, noting that as a system, ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces] is fully organized. Gen. Edi Sudrajat's duties are to continue those initiated by Gen. Try Sutrisno. This daily says the targets to be achieved by ABRI include the utilization of its human resources. Therefore, ABRI's move to maintain its effectiveness is a matter of necessity.

BERITA YUDHA says Gen. Edi Sudrajat's tasks in the coming five years are not easy, especially in view of the fact that the Indonesian people are entering the era of the second long-term development plan where more challenges are expected. The demand for national stability is growing and ABRI under the leadership of Gen. Edi Sudrajat has to play a greater role. But we believe that based on his experience and performance as a soldier in the past 30 years, Gen. Edi Sudrajat will be able to carry out his duties with great success. The general is a person who can control his emotions and shows his fatherly attitude toward his subordinates. Besides, his simple lifestyle and commitment to his subordinates are clearly evident.

Suharto Receives Turkish Foreign Minister

TA1902193693 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1800 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, who is continuing to hold official contacts in Jakarta, was received by President Suharto. At the meeting, Cetin said that there are no problems in political relations between Turkey and Indonesia and that bilateral economic cooperation can be further developed.

Suharto said that Turkey and Indonesia can undertake joint investments in third countries and that the Islamic Development Bank must encourage this cooperation.

At the meeting, agreement was reached to establish a consultation mechanism to develop further the political cooperation between the two countries. An exchange of views was held on the issue of Bosnia-Hercegovina as well. Cetin, who has ended his contacts in Indonesia, will leave Jakarta for Turkey tomorrow.

Laos

Third National Assembly Convenes Inaugural Meeting

BK2002121593 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Vientiane, 20 February (KPL)—The National Assembly of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] (Third Legislature) this morning opened its preliminary meeting chaired by the acting president of the People's Supreme Assembly (Second Legislature), Mr. Thongsing Thammavong.

Attending the opening were Mr. Khamtai Siphandon, president of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and Prime Minister of the Lao PDR; Mr. Nouhak Phoumsavan, Politburo member of the party Central Committee, president of the Lao PDR. All the 85 members of the National Assembly (Third Legislature) elected on December 20 last year were also present at the opening (?together with) other members of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, advisors to the party Central Committee, members of the party Central Committee, deputy ministers, ministers, heads of the party and state committees and of the mass organisations at central level, provincial and municipal governors throughout the country, former members of the party Central Committee, former members of the People's Supreme Assembly (First and Second Legislatures), veterans, and representatives of businessmen from both state and private sectors.

Heads of the diplomatic missions of friendly countries and representatives of the international organisations to Laos also attended the opening at the invitation of the National Assembly.

The preliminary meeting of the National Assembly (Third Legislature) will be conducted for five days during which considerations and decisions will be made on several important issues concerning the organisational restructuring and operations of the National Assembly and concerning the implementations of the policy of renovation in the political sphere of the party and state.

In the morning session, the meeting heard a report on the last election and the operations of the National Assembly (Third Legislature), and considered and endorsed the structure of the National Assembly's Standing Committee, and the appointments of the Interparliamentary Committee of the Lao PDR

It will also consider and endorse the (?plan) of the National Assembly, the structure of the Lao PDR Government, the state socioeconomic development plan, and the state budget plan.

The acting president of the People's Supreme Assembly (Second Legislature) made the opening address of the meeting indicating that this ongoing preliminary meeting of the National Assembly (Third Legislature) has a new step of great significance for the legislative body to assume its regular function specified in the Lao PDR Constitution. Thongsing Thammavong first of all recalled the late president Kaysone Phomvihan of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee of the Lao PDR, the leader in founding the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the founder of the Lao People's Army and the (?founder) of the Lao PDR, who passed away while carrying out his noble task to serve the country. In addition, the acting president recalled members of the People's Supreme Assembly, cadres, combatants and compatriots of various ethnic groups who courageously sacrificed their lives in performing the tasks of national defence and construction.

He said that this meeting was convened amid the rapidly changing and complicated international and regional situation which was, however, in many aspects favourable to the relations and cooperation between different countries. This corresponds to the aspirations and [word indistinct] of the world people longing for peace, equality, and coopertion, he added.

He also noted that at the same time, the compatriots were striving to score initial achievements in implementing the comprehensive renovation policy of the state and were together implementing the first constitution of the Lao PDR which all were being (?lively) developed toward the actual life of the people of all strata and ethnic groups.

To meet the requirement for the state management [words indistinct] all and to ensure the exercise of their right of being the master of their country, the people themselves therefore used their democratic right to elect members of the National Assembly (Third Legislature), the representative of the people's right of being their own master, designed to gradually develop and strengthen the people's democratic regime, Thongsing indicated.

After the address by the chairman of the meeting, Mr. Somsavat Lengsavat, on behalf of the National Election Committee, reported the result of the election affirming the nature of the National Assembly members (Third Legislature) (?whose) total number is 85. The election was conducted smoothly and successfully with the right of the eligible voters who actually went to the polls covering 93.3 percent of the total.

The average age of the elected members is 50 years old, (?31) the youngest, and 89 oldest. As far as their educational backgrounds are concerned, 3 are at primary level, 33 at lower secondary level, 28 at upper secondary level, and 21 at university and post-university level.

After all the reports and speeches, President Nouhak Phoumsavan was invited to address the preliminary meeting (the text of the address to be issued separately on February 22). This was followed by Mr. Thongsing Thammavong presenting a report on the structure of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly.

Following a recommendation by President Nouhak Phoumsavan on the election of the president and vice presidents the National Assembly, the meeting unanimously elected Mr. Saman Vi-gnaket as the president and Mr. Khambou Sounisai and Mr. Vongphet Saikeuyachongtoua as the vice presidents of the National Assembly.

Also elected are the National Assembly Standing Committee consisting of 7 members, namely Mr. Saman Vi-gnaket, Mr. Khambou Sounisai, Mr. Vongphet Saikeuyachongtoua, Mr. Chaleun Yiapaoheu, Dr. Somphavan Inthavong, Dr. Khamliang Phonsena, Mr. Phou Latsapho.

Leaders, Standing Committee Elected

BK2002063693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0325 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Excerpts] At the first meeting of the third National Assembly at the National Assembly Main Hall on 20 February 1993 at 0940, Thongsing Thammavong, chairman of the second Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] and acting chairman of the third National Assembly, proposed election of Saman Vi-gnaket, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionry Party Central Committee [LPRP CC], member of the National Assembly from Constituency 9—Champassak Province—as chairman of the third National Assembly; and Khambou Sounisai, member of the LPRP CC, member of the National Assembly from Constituency 16—Sekong Province—and Vongphet Saikeuyachongtoua, member of the LPRP CC and National Assembly member from Constituency 10—Vientiane Province—as the two vice chairmen of the National Assembly.

Thongsing Thammavong also proposed to the meeting the election of a seven-member Standing Committee of the National Assembly comprising Saman Vi-gnaket, Khambou Sounisai, Vongphet Saikeuyachongtoua, Chaleun Yiapaoheu, Dr. Khamvian Phonsena, Dr Somphavan Inthavong, and Phou Lasaphon. [passage omitted]

The 85-member National Assembly voted by hand to unanimously approve the proposal. [passage omitted]

Chairman Addresses Assembly

BK2002082993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0325 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Speech by Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the Third National Assembly, at the National Assembly on 20 February in Vientiane—live]

[Text] Respected Mr. Chairman, distinguished guests, respected and beloved members of the National Assembly: Amidst this auspicious atmosphere and glorious occasion, I and members of the Standing Committee of the Third National Assembly are very pleased to have been elected at this meeting to be chairman, vice chairmen, and members of the Standing Committee of the Third National Assembly. It shows the confidence the National Assembly members attending this meeting have in us and, at the same time, it marks an assignment of important duties and high responsibilities to all of us.

On this occasion, we would like to express our profound gratitude to all those in attendance at this meeting.

We realize that the fact this meeting has assigned us these duties and responsibilities is the greatest and heaviest of tasks for our limited capabilities. However, we would like to promise to this meeting that we will resolutely and to our utmost ability seek to fulfill the honorable and glorious tasks the people have assigned us. We will be honest to the country, the people, and the people's democracy. We will resolutely implement the principle of innovation in line with our party and the Constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in order to bring legitimate benefits to our country and people.

We will devote all our intellects and efforts to the progress of the country and the well-being of our people. We will always hold aloft the spirit of responsibility in order to increase the unity in the National Assembly, thus contributing to national unity. This will help the people continue to carry out the two strategic duties—defending and building the nation—and actively contribute to the party and state's implementation of foreign policy in order to gain support and sympathy from friendly countries and various international organizations aimed at gradually enhancing the development and prosperity of the country.

I would like to ask all National Assembly members to offer cooperation, support, and assistance to us so that we will be able to successfully fulfill our tasks. We request that all the representatives of the multiethnic people always hold aloft their spirit of responsibility, be firmly united, and comprehensively grasp the essence of the policy of innovation laid out by our state, and the real conditions in localities and the fields under their responsibility. We request that the representatives seriously investigate the activities of the public to understand the real desire of multiethnic people regarding the collective benefits of the country and people as the major target in performing their duties. We request that they always maintain a patriotic spirit and satisfaction in the new system, and resolutely struggle to fulfill glorious tasks the country and people have assigned.

On this occasion, I urge all multiethnic people all over the country to help, support, and follow up on the activities carried out by the Third National Assembly they have elected in order that they will be able to perform duties in accordance with the Constitution and that we all together will be able to build the country to become a country of peace, independence, democracy, unity, and prosperity. In the end, I wish this meeting fine success. Thank you.

Radio Carries Biography

BK2102103993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Saman Vi-gnaket was born in Ban Mai village in Savang Canton, Sanamsai District, Attopeu Province, on 3 March 1927. He is a Lao Loum tribesman. Saman Vi-gnaket has maintained a high political and theoretical position in the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee. He joined the revolution in June 1945 and the party in September 1949.

His activities in each period are briefly as follows:
1935 to 1945: farm worker for hire;
1945 to 1948: soldier along the Lao-Vietnamese border;
1948 to 1950: head of the political service attached to the anti- imperialist artillery unit in Champassak Province;
1950 to 1954: deputy head of the political office of the southern region military command in Attopeu Province;
1954 to 1960: colonel in charge of organizational work attached to the political office under the Supreme Command of the Lao People's Army [LPA];
1960 to 1969: secretary of the party committee in charge of political work for the military command of Xieng Khouang region;
1970 to 1973: secretary of the party committee and head of the military command of the southern region;
February 1972: elected member of Party Central Committee by the second congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP];
1973 to 1975: head of the political office of the LPA Supreme Command;
1977 to 1981: deputy minister of national defense and concurrently head of the General Political Department of the LPA; promoted to lieutenant general of the LPA;
1982 to 1986: elected by the third LPRP congress to be secretary of the Party Central Committee and head of the Organizing Committee of the Party Central Committee;

1986 to 1988: elected Political Bureau member, secretary, and head of the Organizing Committee of the LPRP Central Committee by the fourth party congress;
1988 to 1993: minister of education and sports; reelected member of the Political Bureau of the LPRP Central Committee by the fifth LPRP congress in 1991; elected deputy chairman of the National-level Election Committee in 1992 to organize the third National Assembly; and elected chairman of the National Assembly in the inaugural session of the third National Assembly on 20 February 1993.

Chairman Appoints Commissions

BK2002114593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0810 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Speech by Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the Third National Assembly, at the National Assembly in Vientiane on 20 Feb—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In my capacity as chairman, I would like to assume my duty. This afternoon, we will carry out the internal work of this assembly. All leaders are invited to join us in doing this. In carrying out our work today, we will together set up the various commissions of the Third National Assembly. I would like to make the following proposal:

With reference to Article 19 of the Constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] on the setting up of the many commissions of the National Assembly, relying on the current reality in our country and on the directive of upgrading the state apparatuses to become simple but strong and efficient, and to ensure that the Third National Assembly can carry out its functions as stipulated in the Constitution and the National Assembly Act, I propose to the meeting to consider setting up the following commissions for the Third National Assembly:

1. the Secretariat Commission that includes the Office of the National Assembly;
2. the Commission for Legal Affairs;
3. the Commission for Economy, Planning, and Finance;
4. the Commission for Educational, Cultural, and Social Affairs;
5. the Commission for Ethnic Minorities Affairs;
6. the Commission for Foreign Relations.

At the same time, I would like to recommend appointing chiefs and deputy chiefs of the said commissions as follows:

The Secretariat Commission—Chaleun Yiapaoheu as chief and Noubeng Chanthaphak as deputy chief;

The Commission for Legal Affairs—Khambou Sounisai as chief; and Keyoun Gnot-saiviboun and Saman Souvannasao as deputy chiefs;

The Commission for Economy, Planning, and Finance—Dr. Somphavan Inthavong as chief; and Bouasi Lovansai and Bounthan Souvannasouk as deputy chiefs;

The Commission for Educational, Cultural and Social Affairs—Professor Phou Latsaphon as chief; and Dr. Siho Bannavong and Paseut Sisanon as deputy chiefs;

The Commission for Ethnic Minorities Affairs—Vongphet Saikeuyachongtoua as chief; and Somphon Kha-gnong-ek and Thongsa Pan-gnasit as deputy chiefs;

The Commission for Foreign Relations—Dr. Khamliang Phonsena as chief; and Souphanthaheuangsi Sisaleumsak and Viset Savengseuksa as deputy chiefs.

I would like to point out that the persons recommended as chiefs and deputy chiefs of the said commissions are all cadres who have been tested and tempered in the revolutionary movement and have gained experiences from actual deeds. They also possess adequate qualifications and capabilities in performing the tasks entrusted to them. As for other members of the National Assembly, you will be later appointed by the National Assembly Standing Committee to the various commissions. You will be subsequently notified of such action. I hope that the National Assembly will study and endorse my proposal. I propose that we take a 10-minute break and come back to vote on my recommendation. [passage omitted]

Assembly Reelects Nouhak Phoumsavan

BK2202045293 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0314 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Speech by Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the Third National Assembly at the National Assembly in Vientiane on 22 February—live]

[Text] Respected presidium, members of the National Assembly, and distinguished guests. Today, we will continue the National Assembly meeting for the second day. This morning, our meeting will consider several issues which are very important for the future and fate of the country, as stated in the agenda which you have.

First, we will use our intellect to exercise our rights and perform our duties as members of the National Assembly to elect the president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] as stipulated in Clause 5 of Article 40, and Article 54 of the Constitution of the LPDR.

In so doing, we must clearly understand the criteria and qualifications of the person to be elected president. That is, he must be a person who profoundly loves his country and people and is prepared to devote himself to the interests of the country and the multiethnic people. He must be consistently loyal to the principle of innovation laid out by the party and state. He must be a senior revolutionary with great knowledge and high ability, and must have influence both inside the country and in the international arena.

Based on the aforementioned criteria and qualifications, in my opinion, the most suitable person for the duty of president of the LPDR is Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, who was elected president of the LPDR by the special session of the Supreme People's Assembly on 25 November 1992, and has remained in the post until now.

Because of this, I now propose that the meeting of the National Assembly consider the election of Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan to continue as president of the LPDR. I propose to the meeting that those who agree raise their hands. Now those who disagree please raise their hands.

Therefore, I announce that the meeting of the National Assembly has unanimously approved Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan to become the new president of the LPDR. Let us clap our hands/ [applause].

Nouhak Phoumsavan Speaks

BK2202054493 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0140 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Speech by President Nouhak Phoumsavan at the Third National Assembly in Vientiane on 22 February—live]

[Text] Respected presidium, National Assembly members and distinguished guests. First of all, I would like to express my overwhelming pleasure and pride at being reelected president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] by the inaugural meeting of the third National Assembly. This reflects the great confidence of the representives at the meeting, as well as of the people of the nation, in assigning such honorable and glorious duties to me. [Words indistint] the revolutionary tasks and with consistent loyalty to the revolutionary tasks which late beloved President Kaysone Phomvihan led us in implementing, I will devote all my wisdom and efforts to continue carrying out the assigned heavy but honorable and glorious duties.

In order to continue to successfully implement the tasks of defending and building the nation in the new period, I propose the appoinment of a prime minister of the LPDR to take the responsibility of commanding and supervising government activities. I believe Comrade Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon, who was elected to the post in an extraordinary session of the second Supreme People's Assembly on 15 August 1991, is the most suitable person to once again be prime minister of the LPDR. Comrade Khamtai Siphandon is a courageous and honest revolutionary and has consistently devoted his wisdom and efforts to the revolutionary tasks of the Lao people. He has knowledge, ability, and experience in administering the country. Therefore, I propose that this inaugural meeting consider this, and I also propose Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, whom I have appointed to the post, to form the government. I move that the assembly approve my proposal. Thank you.

Assembly Reelects Khamtai Siphandon

BK2202061693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0141 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Remarks by Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the Third National Assembly, at the National Assembly in Vientiane on 22 February—live]

[Excerpt] [passage ommitted] As chairman of the third National Assembly, I propose that members of the National Assembly raise their hands to approve the appointment of the new prime minister. Now, please put your hands down. Anyone who disagrees, please raise your hands.

This means the meeting of the National Assembly has unanimously approved the appoinment of the new prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. Please clap your hands. [applause]

Now I would like to invite Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon to make a proposal on the structure and formation of the Government of the LPDR. [passage omitted]

Khamtai Siphandon Proposes Government Structure

BK2202081593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0257 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Speech by Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon at the Third National Assembly in Vientiane on 22 February—live]

[Excerpt] Respected presidium, members of the National Assembly, and distinguished guests. First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all members of the National Assembly for showing confidence in me and reelecting me to the post of prime minister. I would like to take this opportunity to say that as head of the government, I will be loyal to the Constitution, the interests of the country, and the people. I will continue to steadily carry out both the domestic and foreign policies which have been implemented so far to make them more and more effective. I hope that the National Assembly, as representatives of the multiethnic people, will render assistance and support to the activities and duties of the government. All this is aimed at firmly defending the country and building our beloved nation towards more progress and prosperity in order to promote the well-being of the Lao people and to enable the LPDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] to gradually have a more prominent role in the international arena.

Following an assignment by the president of the country, I would like to propose to the National Assembly the structure of the new government. The structure is designed to conform with the present situation in the country, to ensure the performing of tasks and duties of the government as stipulated in the Constitution, and to enhance the efficiency of implementing the party's all-around innovation policy.

On the structure of the government, it comprises 16 ministries and organizations of equivalent status of ministry as follows:

1. The Prime Minister's Office;
2. The Ministry of National Defense;
3. The Ministry of Interior;
4. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
5. The Ministry of Justice;
6. The Board of Planning and Cooperation;
7. The Ministry of Finance;
8. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry;
9. The Ministry of Communications, Transport, Posts, and Construction;
10. The Ministry of Industry and Handicrafts;
11. The Ministry of Trade;
12. The Bank of the LPDR;
13. The Ministry of Information and Culture;
14. The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare;
15. The Ministry of Education;
16. The Ministry of Public Health.

I hereby propose the formation of the government with names of its members as follows:

1. Prime Minister is myself;
2. Phoun Sipaseut to be deputy prime minister in charge of supervising foreign affairs
3. Khamphoui Keoboualapha to be deputy prime minister and chairman of the Board of Planning and Cooperation;
4. Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason to be minister of national defense;
5. Phao Bounnaphon to be minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office;
6. Major General A-sang Laoli to be minister of interior;
7. Somsavat Lengsavat to be minister of foreign affairs;
8. Khamsai Souphanouvong to be minister of finance;
9. General Sisavat Keobounphan to be minister of agriculture and forestry;
10. Bouathong to be minister of communications, transport, posts, and construction;
11. Lt. Gen. Osakan Thammatheva to be minister of information and culture
12. Thongloun Sisoulit to be minister of labor and social welfare;
13. Soulivong Dalavong to be minister of industry and handicrafts;
14. Kham-ouan Bouppha to be minister of justice;
15. Sompadit Volasan to be minister of trade;
16. Bousabong Souvannavong to be governor of the Bank of LPDR;
17. Phommason to be minister of education;
18. Professor Vannalet Latsapho to be acting minister of public health.

I would like to inform you that the proposed members of the government are persons who have been well trained through revolutionary activities and have grown up together with the people's movement. They have experience in real activities and have a high level of knowledge and ability. Therefore, I hope that members of the National Assembly will consider and approve my proposal. Thank you. [applause] [passage omitted]

Oudomsai Province To Grow Chinese Rice Strain

BK2002122493 Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Vientiane, February 20 (KPL)—Chinese technicians from Xi Mao City, Yunnan Province, in cooperation with agricultural technicians of Laos, have since early this month conducted a survey of rice growing areas in the District of Sai, Oudomsai Province.

The survey indicates that three areas in this district can grow two rice crops a year, namely Nathong, Nalao, and Nakang villages. The areas will be the first to experiment the plantation of second rice crop using an improved rice strain from the Chinese Xi Mao City. Now farmers in the three villages are sowing rice seeds for the second rice crop plantation.

Besides rice, the local farmers last year grew a variety of other crops such as maize, taro, mung bean, soy bean, sugar cane, and peanuts.

New Savannakhet Province District Established

BK1302024993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Recently, the Savannakhet Provincial Administration approved and announced the setting up of a new district as the 12th district of the province.

The new district is named Atsaphon District, which was formerly part of Atsaphangthong District. The new district consists of 7,108 houses with a total population of more than 38,000 citizens. The district office will be located in Ban Na Kout, Phattha-gna Canton, a more convenient location where there will be greater efficiency in administration. Therefore, Savannakhet Province now comprises 12 districts and one special zone with a total population of 619,210 in 1,662 villages.

Australian TV Broadcasts to Vientiane

BK1802120093 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Vientiane, February 18 (KPL)—Television viewers in the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] can now watch Australian television programmes. The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) begin transmission of its new satellite-based service in Darwin on 17 February, said a press release of the Australian embassy in Vientiane.

The Australian Parliament approved recently a special allocation to begin this service which is targeted at Asian countries.

The Australian minister for transport and communications, Senator Bob Collins; and the minister for foreign affairs and trade, Senator Gareth Evans, said the service will be a key element in the federal government's strategy for forging close economic and cultural ties with countries in the region.

Besides Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], countries which will be able to receive the broadcasts include Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Malasia, Singopore, Brunei, the Philippines, Taiwan, Burma, Vietnam, Cambodia, [word indistinct] and China.

The program, including news and current affairs reports, mini-series, sport and drama, will be beamed from Indonesia (?via) Palapa (?Two) Satellite which already carries several international TV services in the region.

ABC will also put its regional interests in its programming. It is planned. [sentence as received] For example, the 10 special Southeast Asian documentaries will be broadcasted within the first year.

Householder (?with) stations will be able to pick up the ABC signal, or it could be received by distributors and rebroadcast over the air or through cable systems .

Details of programmes and technical data is available from the Australian Embassy in Vientiane.

Philippines

Police Launch Offensive Against NPA

HK1902121093 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 19 Feb 93 p 12

[Text] Laoag City—The provincial police command here launched last Wednesday a mopping-up operation, called "Oplan Salampingao," in the border mountains of Ilocos Norte, Cagayan and Kalinga-Apayao in an effort to flush out the remnants of communist rebels under the New People's Army (NPA) Franklin Arreola Command, officials reported yesterday.

Ilocos Norte police director Senior Supt. [Superintendent] Romeo B. Maganto reported a continuous assault on the area by an air-borne strike command aided by two Philippine Air Force Huey gunships and special forces of the 73rd Army Infantry Battalion. The target, Maganto said, is to get, dead or alive, NPA chieftain Rufino Bacung, alias "Ka [Comrade] Roland," and his 60 men.

The rebels were holed up in the mountains of Bacarra town and Surong Valley in Vintar. Ground troops chased them after they ambushed three Bacarra policemen last Sunday. "We have cordoned off the entire province with 24-hour checkpoints, patrol and blocking forces to seal their possible escape routes, he said. He vowed to free the province from the insurgents within this year. Maganto declared Bacung as "Public Enemy No. 1" in Ilocos Norte. He recommended to Ilocos region PNP [Philippine National Police] director Chief Supt. [Superintendent] Elpidio Q. Ablang a P500,000 [Philippine pesos] price for his head.

Government, Rebels To Discuss Peace Declaration

HK1902132093 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 19 Feb 93 p 12

[Text] Government and the Rebolusyonaryang Alyansang Makabansa (RAM)/Young Officers Union (YOU) have agreed in principle to discuss the National Unification Commission's (NUC) proposed 10-point refinement of the Government-National Democratic Front (NDF) Joint Declaration.

President Ramos's instructions to the government panel had stressed that: "Talking points must incorporate the refined substantive issues drawn up by the NUC relative to the NDF."

The NUC earlier proposed the refinements to "substantive issues" identified in the September 1992 Joint Declaration, namely: human rights and international humanitarian law, political and electoral reforms, socioeconomic reforms, as well as cessation of hostilities and disposition of forces.

One month later, the NUC suggested the subdivision of these broad issues into ten points, namely: electoral reforms, political principles for the operation of political parties and organizations, broader and more effective enforcement of human rights principles, dismantling of all private armies and strict implementation of relevant laws, improvements in the administration of justice, protection of the environment, socioeconomic reforms, provisions for victims of internal armed conflicts, economic components of national unification and the disposition of forces and armaments.

RAM/YOU panel spokesman Capt. [Captain] Danilo Lim welcomed the incorporation of the 10-point refinements into Government-RAM/YOU peace talks "Okey yan. Maraming ["That's okay. There are several] commonalities between our demands and the 10-point agenda," he said, adding: "These peace talks are not only between the Government and various armed groups. They involve the whole Filipino people, the entire society."

The agenda submitted by the military rebels to the NUC grouped detailed reform proposals under five major categories, namely: electoral reforms to ensure clean, honest, orderly and free elections; attainment of good and efficient government for national renewal and transformation; implementation of nationalist economic development policies and programs; review of national defense and security concerns and attune these with the country's and people's fundamental requirements and aspirations; and actualization of social justice programs to positively address poverty, unemployment and criminality.

The presidential instructions to the Government panel distinguished talking points from demands. It declined "demands as issues... which may be acted upon by the executive department alone."

On the other hand, talking points referred to "issues of principles about social organization and governance (that) cover political, social and economic changes that will require the participation of other co-equal and independent departments of Government and the private sector."

Unlike the NDF, however, the military rebels agreed with the NUC's consultations with representatives of various social, economic and political sectors as a mechanism to develop a viable amnesty and peace program. "Because the NUC is now conducting nationwide consultations on the substantive issues, agreement on issues must take into account the positions and principles put forward in these consultations," President Ramos had instructed his negotiation panel, headed by Prof. [Professor] Alfredo Tadiar.

The military rebel spokesman agreed, saying: "We have to look at the inputs from these consultations because in the process of consulting various sectors of society, many other issues will surface."

Ramos Denies Planning To Visit Taiwan

HK1902141693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1137 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Manila, Feb 19 (AFP)—Philippine President Fidel Ramos on Friday denied that he was planning to visit Taiwan and said a trip to China was being arranged with Beijing. "Contrary to reports emanating from abroad, he has no plans of visiting Taiwan," presidential spokeswoman Annabelle Abaya said in a statement. "As for the visit to China, the president indicated that no dates have been fixed. The chief executive added that the dates will be announced in due time upon agreement by both sides," she said.

The chief Philippines representative in Taiwan, Gualberto Lumauig, had said in Taipei Tuesday [16 February] that Ramos might make a visit there. The Chinese ambassador here Thursday [18 February] said his country would object to any visit by Ramos or other Philippine officials to Taiwan. Ambassador Huang Guifang reiterated Beijing's policy that they did not object to "civic, economic relations between the Philippines and Taiwan," but said "we oppose any official visit to Taiwan because Taiwan is part of China."

Taiwan businessmen have become the most aggressive foreign investors in the Philippines, which officially recognizes Beijing as the sole legitimate government of China. Taipei is offering to develop a former U.S. base at Subic Bay, northwest of Manila, into a new industrial center.

Malaysia Plans To Expel Filipinos From Sabah

HK1902130493 Quezon City MALAYA in English 19 Feb 93 p 4

[Text] Malaysia plans to expel Filipinos from Sabah, starting with 7,510 next month, apparently in violation of a recently concluded agreement between President Ramos and Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, a ranking official of the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday [18 February]. The agreement provides for the creation of a joint commission which will determine who among the Filipinos in Sabah have to be deported, said the official, who asked not to be identified. There are about 400,000 Filipinos in Sabah.

"They (Malaysians) are tightening the screws on us," the official said, describing the plan as a "strong-arm tactic" by Kuala Lumpur to mock Manila's claim over the oil- and timber-rich island. The Filipinos facing expulsion are illegal aliens who are either retailers or employed as plantation workers.

The official said Manila has limited options to oppose the deportation of Filipinos since the joint commission has not been created. "There is not much we can do at this time. We have to ensure a strong follow through on the joint commission to test the sincerity of the Malaysians," the official said.

Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo earlier said he and Malaysian Foreign Minister Dadawi will sign a memorandum of agreement on the creation of the joint commission in April. The Malaysian Embassy also declined to comment on the report.

Vietnam

Government Issues Drug Control Resolution

BK2002091793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 11 Feb 93

["Text" of the government's resolution on drug prevention and control; dated 29 January—read by announcer]

[Text] At present in our country the scourges of drug addiction—through smoking or intravenous injection—and drug trafficking are increasing. This bad practice, which goes against the national tradition, has adversely affected our economic development, caused great harm to the health of a segment of people, and had a bad impact on the lives of our people, thus leaving grave consequences for our future generations. This is a source of concern for the entire society and we should resolutely struggle against this bad practice through various didactical propaganda and economic, administrative, and legal measures.

1. It is necessary to undertake the following policies and measures:

a. Widely spread propaganda so everyone, especially youths, can realize the dangerous consequences of drug addiction; instill a sense of vigilance against reactionaries and smugglers' attempts to incite division and to slander and distort various party and state policies on poppy crops; introduce the subject of drug addiction control into the curriculum of various general education schools, vocational middle schools, and colleges.

b. Motivate and persuade mountain compatriots to definitely stop planting poppies and shift to other substitution crops; conduct research on those substitution crops that suit the soil and climatic conditions, the cultivation patterns, and the consumption markets of each area in such a way as to ensure that local compatriots can earn an income which is about the same as what they now get in poppy cultivation. If there is a sharp drop in income during the early years of their shift in production, the state will provide them with necessary assistance to ensure their lives. The state will adopt specific policies such as providing the compatriots with food grain supply and tax-free capital loans, and purchasing their products at subsidized prices in order to help them alter the course of production.

c. Strictly control the circulation of all kinds of narcotics in the entire territory, especially in poppy-growing areas, border areas, border gates, seaports, and international airports; step up the struggle against all acts of producing, trafficking, storing, and dealing in narcotics of all sorts; destroy all those confiscated products made from opium or other narcotic substances; strengthen international cooperation in the field of narcotic control on the basis of ensuring the observance of various principles in conformity with our country's law and with the United Nations' international convention on narcotic control.

d. With regard to those syndicates and dens that provide services for drug injection, drug smoking, and drug administering [uoongs], we should promptly detect and eradicate them and sternly punish those operating these places in accordance with the criminal code.

e. As for the addicts, organizing drug rehabilitation should be regarded as a compulsory measure as already expounded in Article 29 of the law on public healthcare protection. Depending on the actual situation in each locality and of each particular target, we may organize drug rehabilitation at state health centers, private medical establishments, or at home in conjunction with efforts to provide job-creating vocational training, and solve various relevant social matters.

2. Organizing guidance for drug control work:

a. Making the drug control task a uniform national program with the following primary objectives:

— Conducting a primary investigation to analyze and evaluate the actual drug situation in Vietnam;

— Guiding and implementing various crop replacement policies in areas where poppies are being cultivated by the compatriots;

— Organizing the rehabilitation for, giving treatment to, and providing job-creating vocational training to drug addicts;

— Adopting measures to intensify control over the production, storage, trading, and trafficking in drugs; and destroying those confiscated products made from opium or other narcotic substances;

— Enacting legal documents on drug control;

— Organizing international cooperation on drug control.

b. Setting up a steering committee for the national drug control program whose duties are to provide guidance and supervision for various sectors and localities to implement the drug control program cited above.

The steering committee for the national program will be a joint organization with the Minister of State in Charge of the Nationalities and Mountain Region Affairs Committee as its head; the deputy minister of interior, the deputy minister of labor, war invalids, and social welfare, and the deputy minister of public health as deputy heads; and with the representatives of a number of relevant ministries, and general departments, and representatives of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the Vietnam Women's Union as members.

Provinces and cities under the central authority must set up steering committees for drug control to help the respective people's committee chairmen carry out the national program for drug control at the localities concerned.

3.Divide responsibilities for fighting the scourge of drug addiction.

The Nationalities and Mountain Region Affairs Committee will serve as a key organ responsible for coordinating all those activities under the national program for drug control. It will directly organize the implementation of a program to shift from poppy production to other substitution crops. This should be linked with drug rehabilitation efforts in accordance with the chairman of the Council of Ministers' Directive 49, dated 4 March 1992, on establishing a general plan for drug control in Vietnam codenamed VE-660.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and the Ministry of Forestry must cooperate with scientific organs in directing efforts to shift from poppy production to other substitution crops.

The Ministry of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Welfare must provide guidance for drug rehabilitation activities and solve those social problems entailing drug rehabilitation.

The Ministry of Public Health is responsible for suggesting those kinds of medicine and methods needed for drug rehabilitation, and for providing management over the use of opium and other kinds of narcotics for medicinal production or for scientific research as stipulated by the state.

The Ministry of Interior and the Customs General Department are responsible for providing guidance for the control of the illegal trafficking, dealing in, storage, and use of opium and other kinds of narcotics in the entire territory.

The Ministry of Culture and Information must direct the spreading of widespread didactical propaganda among the people of various strata on those policies and measures against the scourge of drug addiction.

The Ministry of Education and Training must spread didactical propaganda in schools on how to prevent narcotic influence and on the danger of drug usage.

The Ministry of Justice must initiate legal studies on the narcotic problem and prepare documents for Vietnam to ratify various international conventions on narcotics.

The People's Committees of various provinces and cities under the central authority are responsible for providing guidance for all activites related to narcotic prevention and control in localities concerned.

The Steering Committee for the Drug Prevention and Control Program, various ministries and ministerial-level organs, government agencies, and local people's committees must closely cooperate with the Vietnam Fatherland Front and other mass organizations in spreading didactical propaganda and taking substantive actions, trying to make drug prevention and control the responsibility of each citizen so he will strive harder and more effectively to fight this bad practice.

Joint MIA Search To Begin 'Next Week'

BK2002103293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's spokeswoman Ho The Lan announced on Thursday that a new search for remains of U.S. servicemen missing in action in the Vietnam war—the 22d so far—will begin next week.

Vietnamese and American experts will cover nine provinces in central and southern Vietnam. The search, which lasts from 25 February to 21 March, will involve four inquiry teams and three excavation teams operating on the ground, and three other teams searching through military archives in Hanoi, Danang, and Ho Chi Minh City.

Hanoi Radio Reports Border Talks With PRC

BK1902150293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] According to the agreement reached between the Vietnamese and Chinese Governments, the second round of border talks at the experts level was held in Hanoi from 14 to 19 February.

The group of Vietnamese experts was led by Nguyen Dinh Bin, head of the consular department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The group of Chinese experts was led by (Wang En-fei), head of the Asia department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The two sides exchanged views on fundamental principles aimed at solving long-standing bilateral issues concerning the land border and territorial waters, as well as problems newly emerged since late November 1991.

The two sides also exchanged views on other matters aimed at preparations for talks at the governmental level.

The talks proceeded in a friendly and frank atmosphere.

The Chinese experts were received by Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan on 18 February. They left for home on 19 February.